

THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

WHAT DO WE SEE?

SUCH is the first question which presents itself to men's minds on taking a hurried glance at the political change which has just occurred, and which even yet is not quite completed. The transformation has been so sudden, so unexpected, so extensive, that time for reflection is required in order to realise its character. England may be said to have undergone within a week a reactionary movement equivalent to a revolution. As compared with what it was when our last number issued from the press, her outlook is as nearly as may be in the opposite direction. For what length of time it may remain so we do not think it worth our while to hazard a conjecture. Two years at furthest is the limit of existence assigned by some people to the present phase of political affairs. They may be right or wrong, but as they do not give the data upon which this hypothesis is based, we think it will be more consistent with prudence and reason to abstain from speculation on the point. It is better, perhaps, to look intently at what *is*, rather than what *may be*; to ascertain as clearly as we can the whereabouts of our position; and, having done so, to lay down for ourselves the duties to which we are called.

What is it, then, that we see in the state of things brought about by the general election? We see the certainty of an immediate change of Government. We see a Conservative Administration, with a working majority in the House of Commons, backed by a willing House of Lords, modified in its policy to some extent by a strong Opposition, but, in the main, representing a preponderance of public opinion. This is the first result of the operation of the ballot—a true result, we think—we may even say a natural result—but, so far as we are able to judge from the materials before us, we may add a transitory result. We confess we did not foresee it. That which has happened is not only not in accordance with what we had expected, but is what if any one had predicted it we should have probably characterised as an absurdity. Nevertheless, there is no sufficient ground for doubting that the general result of the elections which have just taken place is a fair representation of the opinion of the country in its present mood of thought. We say the “opinion,” because we can hardly believe that the next House of

Commons will be representative of the sober and settled conviction of the people. We do not attribute any very serious importance to the action of special classes, or of organised associations, upon the total result. No doubt the publicans have contributed an appreciable element to the electoral force which has issued in a Conservative majority. But we cannot avoid the conclusion that that majority is due to a more general and a less fortuitous cause than the excited and vindictive wrath of the traders in alcoholic drinks. Nor do we lay any great stress either upon the direct action of the Liberation Society, of the National Alliance, or, indeed, of any of those associations whose single aim it has been to push forward the objects they were severally organised to advance, or upon the reaction which, to some extent, may have been provoked by their efforts. The verdict of the constituencies appears to us to carry with it a wider meaning—a meaning, in short, more commensurate with its own breadth.

In judging of the real character of the change we have witnessed it is requisite that we should take into account the influences which have been for some time past silently, but powerfully, operating upon the temper of the British people. Neither the disestablishment of the Irish Church, nor the settlement effected in regard to the relation of landlord and tenant in Ireland, nor the abolition of purchase in the army, nor the establishment of an educational system for England and Scotland, can plausibly be credited with anything like the total amount of dissatisfaction with a Liberal Government which the electoral history of the last week has disclosed. Nor do we think that any prospect of financial readjustment, of better arrangement of local taxation, of the reform of existing Land Laws, or even of an assimilation of the County to the Borough Franchise, has had much to do, with driving the electoral bodies into the Conservative mood by which they have evidently been governed. The objection felt to the Gladstone Ministry was probably vague in its character and concerned itself but little with specific measures. It was against further movement, and especially movement in the democratic direction. The feeling has been growing, although it has remained latent, for a considerable time past. It was kindled, perhaps, by the Communist episode at Paris, but it has been fed by a variety of materials ever since. The overbearing tone assumed by trades unions; the extensive strikes which have crippled many industrial interests; and the exclusive pretensions of various organisations of the working people, have very largely co-operated with the prosperity of the country, with its rapid accumulation of wealth, and with the wide spread of luxurious tastes and habits, in diffusing through a large portion of the middle and upper classes of society a nervous apprehension of being presently brought under the domination of the less cultivated classes of the community. This apprehension was not very distinctly expressed, and, perhaps, would not have been, for some time to come, under the old electoral system. The suddenness of Mr. Gladstone's recent appeal to the people, and the secrecy with which that appeal was individually responded to, will probably account, in no small degree, for the startling disclosure which has been effected. As we have seen, under certain electric conditions of the atmo-

sphere, all the smoke of London collected into one black cloud, and borne hither and thither in the mass according to the set of the wind, so it seems to us that all the vague and nebulous fears of the community, not unnaturally excited by the events of the last two years, were suddenly condensed into a huge wave of Conservatism, beneath which a Liberal Government had for the moment disappeared. On reflection, it does not surprise us that matters should have assumed their present shape and drift. The fact is disagreeable enough. To us it presents a dark and forbidding aspect, but, unquestionably, it has its own meaning, and that meaning is one which has grown out of social rather than political meaning.

Of course they who, like ourselves, are deeply interested in the promotion of religious equality will, for some time to come, have to work under a cloud. But they will be wrong, we think, to accept too hastily the conclusion that it is a cloud fraught with evil to themselves or to their principles. All political and politico-ecclesiastical changes, in a Liberal sense, will be regarded by the dominant power—that is to say, the embodied will of the people—with something approaching to disfavour. Things will not probably get on quite so swimmingly as they have seemed to do in days gone by. Assuming that the feeling represented by the outcome of the general election indicates rather a passing mood of temper than a deep conviction of the judgment, it will be obvious enough that the duty of those who desire progress will have to be adapted to the new conditions it will be required to meet. Faith in the right, patience, cheerfulness, persistency and satisfaction in the discharge of obligation for its own sake—these, generally, are the special qualifications we are called upon by the times to exhibit. We are not to think of what has befallen the cause of progress “as though some strange thing had happened to us.” We have passed, it is true, out of sunshine into shade. But intelligent and manly natures will know how to profit by the disagreeable change, and to make it subservient, in one way or another, to the furtherance of their main purpose.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

SOME of our readers may not know that we are in the midst of a “mission.” But we are, and we cannot help it, even if we would. This is the week assigned long ago for a revival movement in the Established Church, and as we write, unusual services are being held, extraordinary appeals are being made to the persons, and the utmost endeavour is used to excite people to some degree of religious enthusiasm. This is done in various modes. The extreme High Churchmen parade the streets with surpliced choristers, and stop to preach whenever opportunity may offer. Milder men are keeping open the edifices for public worship all day long, and providing for almost continuous public services. A large number of clergymen altogether deprecate the movement, and are taking no part in it, while some are even actively opposing it. The “mission” is just one of those matters upon which it is difficult to form a judgment, excepting so far as to say that, as it has the elements of manufacture rather than the elements of growth—as it is made rather than developed—not much in the way of good is likely to come of it. At the same time, we see little reason to depreciate this unusual and extraordinary development of zeal on the part of the Established clergy. On the contrary, we welcome it. If they would

only distribute that zeal throughout their labours, instead of forcing it into abnormal exertion in one week, we should think the better of it, and, at the same time, hope more from its results. But, taking it all in all, the Mission movement is good in its intention; it has the active sympathy of many zealous men, and if it should only assist to raise the Establishment out of the dreary and monotonous rut that it has got into, it will deserve some small and favourable appreciation. We wish the best for it. We are not, like the Evangelicals, jealous of it. If it can turn men from the love of the world to the love of God, it will justify itself. The curious question is, how some of the Established clergy can do this?

Nothing of course can take place in connection with the Establishment without developing its sectarianism. One would have thought that in a mission of this kind, a mission, avowedly, of the Church against the world, sectarianism would have been dropped. Not a bit of it! The promoters of the mission in the Metropolitan district are the Bishops of London, Winchester, and Rochester. Now, to these bishops an address influentially signed was recently presented. The signatories protested against the mission being used for confessional purposes—that is all. The three bishops replied. They said that the mission was to be “a united effort of prayer and labour directed against vice, ungodliness, and unreality, and in the strain of such an effort all differences may well unite.” All differences! What does the word “all” mean? It means all differences in the Church itself, but the bishops are careful to state that no alliance is to be held with Nonconformists. On the contrary, they have heard that there are clergymen who desire to take this opportunity “of supplying what they consider a serious defect in our Church system by introducing lay and Nonconformist preachers into our pulpits.” Of this the bishops “disapprove.” If, therefore, the Nonconformists should join “this united effort of prayer and labour directed against vice, ungodliness, and unreality” (query immorality?), they will do it not only without the sanction of the three bishops but with the express disapproval of these successors of the apostles.

Strange events often excite strange comments, and, indeed, we have seen during the last fortnight, but one of the strangest of comments upon the present election is afforded by the *Record*, which has gone over by the shortest path to Mr. Disraeli. Mr. Disraeli is to be the bulwark of the Church and of Protestantism. We should have thought that the Evangelical ideal would have been a different sort of man, but, as Mr. Disraeli has now succeeded, what more can be said? Does not success realise the ideal, or even change it altogether? A man is not believed in until he succeeds. But then! All hats off—statues to him before he even becomes to be a memory, and—take down his statue when he once more fails, or, as it oftener happens, explodes! However, Mr. Disraeli is in the ascendant, and the *Record* hopes much from him. This much, for instance:—

The remarkable words that dropped from Mr. Disraeli at the end of his speech at Newport Pagnel are deserving of especial attention. “The Church of England,” said the right hon. gentleman, “never had a greater opportunity of asserting its influence, if its counsels were regulated with discretion—(applause)—than at this time. I believe it is the best—I believe the only security—for religious liberty. (Cheers.) I trust that the Anglican Church will be maintained by adherence to these principles of the Reformation upon which it was founded.” The protracted applause with which these noble words were received by the Buckinghamshire farmers and yeomanry, indicates the feelings of a county which, belonging as it does to the diocese of Oxford, has too long groaned under the pressure of ecclesiastical innovations and sacerdotal assumptions. The principles of the Protestant Reformation are the only principles on which the Church of England can rest secure amidst the surging waves of ecclesiastical tumult. It is not the first time that Mr. Disraeli has expressed his want of sympathy with those who are trying to substitute the lawless innovations of gaudy vestments and bannered processions, belonging to the ritual of erring Rome, for the sound Scriptural teaching and simple ceremonial of the Church of the Reformation.

But, Mr. Disraeli is not only to stem the progress of Ritualism; he is also to stem the progress of the Nonconformists. This, therefore, is to be another advantage to be derived from Mr. Disraeli's Ministry:—

The advantages to the Church of England and to the cause of Evangelical truth will be indisputable. It may confidently be assumed that if the Liberation Society were not strong enough to render their attack on the Church Establishment formidable during the Parliament that is past, it certainly will not succeed in doing so under the Parliament just elected, and with the whole united weight of the Government against it. We may, therefore, calculate that a few years of freedom from outward attack will be enjoyed, and if this interval can be well employed, with wise and courageous reform of abuses within, and a laborious dis-

charge of her great work among the masses without, it may be of incalculable benefit, and may produce a vast increase of strength to the Church. In the same way the question of education may be laid to rest for a period, and time be consequently afforded for the Church to secure her present position, and to render her portion of the work of national education so thoroughly efficient as to make it more difficult than ever for a future Liberal Government to interfere with the position so honestly and laboriously won. Nor are we without hopes that under a Government in sympathy with the Church of England, and freed from the necessity of conciliating that extreme party who do dishonour to the great Nonconformist body, some satisfactory arrangement may be made for the extension of the compulsory powers to the denominational as well as to the rate-supported school.

Nobody, before, suspected that Mr. Disraeli was very anxious for the progress of Evangelical truth; but it is a wholesome warning to be told that he may be anxious for the spread of compulsory denominational education. Why should he not be, when the present Government has safely shown its proclivities in the same direction?

We take the following from a letter to the *Record* of last Friday:—

LIBERATION ACTIVITY.

Sir,—Your space in view of Mr. Gladstone's flank move is precious, so my letter on the subject of “Liberation activity” shall be of the shortest kind. Let the clergy and laity make a few inquiries, and they will find an enviable degree of activity (but in a wrong direction) displayed by the agents of the Liberation Society. In the small retired village in which I dwell, exciting leaflets detracting and maligning our Church are being left at every house: from one of these I will quote. There are many good people who greatly admire Mr. Spurgeon. A tract by C. H. Spurgeon, called “Results of Disestablishment,” published by the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, has these words:—“Ten thousand of the elect and faithful [of the Church of England] bow the knee, crying day and night, ‘From all fraternal association and Christian equality with other Protestant Churches, good Lord deliver us.’” Talk of infidel writers and their misdeeds and sinful use of Scripture, I would advise all Mr. Spurgeon's admirers to read his “Results of Disestablishment,” price, I suppose, one halfpenny; and, knowing something of the activity for evil of the Liberation Society, I would earnestly point to it, in view of the coming election, and exhort men of a better mind to meet error with truth, and confute it wisely and timely.

SWORD AND TROWEL.

Mons. C. Diependaal, priest at the Helder, has been elected at Utrecht archbishop of the Old Catholic community in Holland, formerly known as Jansenists.

Her Majesty has approved the appointment of the Ven. J. S. Utterson, Archdeacon of Surrey, as suffragan to the Bishop of Winchester, with the title of Bishop of Guildford.

The rector of an Oxford church neglected to baptize an infant which was dangerously ill, although four applications were made to him. The child died, and then he refused to bury it on the ground that it was unbaptized.—*Weekly Review*.

The *Church Times* attributes to Lord Palmerston a saying “that the Dissenting members hated the Church of England more than they did the devil, and that the Churchmen loved her less than they did their dinner,” and expresses its belief that a Disendowment Bill which would offer a share of the tithes as a bribe to the landowners, would secure “a crowd of Conservative votes.” The writer's conclusion is that “Churchmen can put confidence in neither party, since each will bid for the Nonconformist vote.”

THE CHARGE OF HERESY AGAINST PRINCIPAL CAIRD.—At a meeting of the Glasgow Presbytery on Wednesday, a resolution to take no further action in respect of the charge of heresy against Principal Caird was carried by 21 to 14. An appeal was made to the Synod.

MR. GORDON'S LIBERATION LECTURES.—Last week Mr. Gordon, of Darlington, lectured five successive nights in his own neighbourhood, as follows:—Monday, Redcar; Tuesday, Carlisle; Wednesday, Loftus; Thursday, Brotton; and Friday, Skelton. Most of the meetings were very enthusiastic, and the miners came forward heartily with their free-will offerings to the society's funds. This week Mr. Gordon lectures in North Wales.

THE OLD CATHOLICS OF BAVARIA.—There are at present no fewer than thirty-four congregations of Old Catholics in Bavaria, regularly ministered to by fourteen properly ordained priests who have joined the communion. Munich is naturally their chief seat, and here there are two thousand, with Döllinger, Friedrich, Messmer, and two other less known clergymen as the pastors. At Kempten, on the Tyrol side, there are over nine hundred, and at the small town of Mering no fewer than nineteen hundred. All the other chief places of the kingdom have their Old Catholic congregation, generally of some hundreds. The total number in Bavaria is estimated at fifteen thousand.

THE BERLIN MEETING AGAINST THE ULTRAMONTANES.—At Berlin on Saturday a meeting took place in response to those recently held in London, expressing sympathy with Germany in her struggle with the Church. Many influential personages were present, including members of the German and Prussian Parliaments, the municipality, the clergy, the University, &c. The President, in his speech, referred with gratification to the meetings which had been held in London, and concluded by saying that England was their surest ally in fighting the battles of civil and religious liberty. Other

speakers having been heard, a resolution was passed thanking those present at the London meetings of the 27th January for the sympathy they had displayed towards the German Emperor and the German nation in their struggle with Ultramontanism. The meeting was very spirited and enthusiastic, and the presence of Dr. Dorner, a member of the Superior Council of the Evangelical Church, seemed to indicate a partial change in the attitude of the Protestant clergy towards Prince Bismarck's policy.

THE ORTHODOX GREEK CHURCH.—One of the “Church of England” rejoices to think that a non-Protestant marriage has been contracted by a member of the royal family, and “hopes that the ‘Orthodox’ teaching and traditions which the Duchess of Edinburgh brings with her will profitably leaven the minds of her new relatives.” Whatever this “orthodoxy” may be in the eyes of the Ritualists, the following, which we quote from the *Baptist*, does not say much for Russian toleration:—“We regret to hear that in Russia the persecution of our Baptist brethren not only continues, but increases. At Kiev thirty brethren and sisters are already in prison. In the department of Cherson, where, until within a few weeks, religious liberty was enjoyed, the pastor Rabolscabka has been banished to Siberia, everyone attending the services has been fined fifteen roubles, and the meetings are forbidden for the future. Their chapel, the only one which has at present been built in Russia, and towards the erection of which the German Churches contributed, has been closed by the Government seal. In Poland the churches enjoy liberty and peace, and the conversions are numerous.”

MR. HUBBARD, M.P., AND ST. ALBAN.—Mr. Hubbard, addressing his electors at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, thus referred to his connection with St. Alban's Ritualistic Church, Holborn, of which the notorious Mr. Mackonochie is the high “priest”:—“It is a painful thing for a man to speak of his private feelings, and especially of the one great grief of his whole life. That church I founded as an act of gratitude to God for all His mercies. I did my utmost to find for that church a pastor in whose entire diligence, steadfastness, and zeal I could confide. I had a great number of candidates, and took immense pains in the selection, and settled at last upon the gentleman whom I ultimately presented to it with the entire sanction and approval of the then Bishop of London. For some time I took the office of churchwarden, but from the first day practices arose against which I protested, at first silently, but they rapidly increased, and I then carried my protests to the Bishop of London, who backed up my remonstrances himself. Finding I had no actual power, and having for months and months remonstrated with the incumbent, I was at last obliged to withdraw from the office of churchwarden, and abandon the work upon which I had heartily entered six months before.”

NONCONFORMISTS AND THE MAGISTRACY.—The exclusion of Dissenters from the magistracy in Huntingdonshire, of which we have heard lately, is, we are afraid, not at all a singular instance of the abuse of the patronage vested in lord-lieutenants. In Shropshire we have a flagrant example of the same thing. Some time ago a house belonging to a large estate was rented by a retired solicitor, a Conservative Churchman, whose name was forthwith added to the commission. Subsequently, the estate was sold; the purchaser, at a cost of many thousands, erected a fine mansion, and settled down there. He was a member of Parliament, one of the leading men in Lancashire, and greatly respected for his personal worth—better suited, by his strong practical common sense, to fill the office of magistrate than half the gentlemen who now sit on the bench. But—he was a Liberal Nonconformist; and to this day his wealth, and estate, and high character, have failed to obtain the favourable notice of Lord Hill, though in a neighbouring county the gentleman we refer to is now on the list of high sheriffs! Lord Hill's praises are sung at every public dinner in Shropshire, and his personal worth, we believe, is great; but he has yet to learn the duty of forgetting differences of opinion in the discharge of his public duties—surely an essential piece of knowledge for a lord-lieutenant!—*Oswestry Advertiser*.

SYMPATHY WITH GERMAN CATHOLICS.—The great Catholic demonstration against the policy of Germany towards the Pope was held on Friday night, in St. James's Hall, London. Thousands were unable to obtain admission. The chair was occupied by Sir Charles Clifford, and letters sympathizing with the objects of the meeting were read from Archbishop Manning, Lord Granard, Mr. H. Matthews, Q.C., and other gentlemen. It was stated that the Catholics of Mayence, Bonn, Cologne, Aix-le-Chapelle, Rome, Florence, Ireland, and Lemberg, had telegraphed their good wishes, and that five telegrams had been received from various Catholic associations in Vienna. The speakers included the Earl of Gainsborough, Lord Howard of Glossop, Mr. Allies, the Master of Herries, and the Earl of Denbigh, and the following resolutions were adopted:—“That this meeting desires to express the deepest sympathy with their fellow Catholics in Germany—(cheers)—suffering now under the rigours of new penal laws.” “That the new ecclesiastical laws in Germany make it impossible for the Church to exercise with freedom her spiritual functions, and are contrary to the rights of conscience.” “That the suppression and expulsion of religious communities against whom no evidence of crime or disloyalty has been adduced, is a tyrannical abuse

of power by the German Legislature and Government." The meeting separated, cheering loudly for the Pope. At the meeting in Warwick-street Roman Catholic Church, which was an overflow from that of St. James's Hall, a letter from the Archbishop of Posen, conveying his heartfelt thanks for the kind sympathy of English Catholics for those of the Church who are persecuted, was read by the chairman, and received with much enthusiasm.

CHURCH EDUCATION AND THE COWPER-TEMPLE CLAUSE.—The Bath and Wells Diocesan Board of Education have resolved:—"That the time is arrived at which the friends of voluntary and religious education should appeal to Parliament for the repeal of the Cowper-Temple Clause. That Sections 23 and 99 of the Elementary Education Act should be amended so as to extend protection to existing trusts for religious education, and to secure that in all transfers and leases under the Act a power of objection should be given to corporate bodies and societies which have made grants for the erection of denominational school buildings, and that the Educational Department be by law directed to give notice to such corporations and societies of any such proposed transfers and leases. That legal power should be given to parishes to dissolve school boards when such boards shall have been proved to be not needed. That legal power should be given to school boards to lease their school buildings to school managers voluntarily undertaking to maintain a school under the provisions of the Elementary Education Act. That legal power should be given to school boards or to parish vestries to vote a portion of the rates towards the maintenance of any voluntary school, absolute liberty of religious teaching being given to the managers, subject to the provisions of the Elementary Education Act and the regulations of the Education Department. That legal power should be given to parish vestries to apply to the magistrates to enforce compliance with any legal regulations affecting the compulsory attendance of children at school. That, subject to the operation of the conscience clause, it ought to be enacted that in all rate-supported schools instruction be given in the Holy Scriptures and in the Christian religion."

DISESTABLISHMENT AND THE GENERAL ELECTION. The following resolutions of the United Presbyterian Synod's committee on Disestablishment were circulated in Scotland prior to the elections:—"1. That electoral action cannot be employed to a higher purpose than in furthering the liberation of religion from State patronage and control; and that the crisis of a general election, into which the country has been suddenly plunged, calls urgently for the vigilance and fidelity of all friends of disestablishment. 2. That it is especially the duty of United Presbyterians to vindicate the position they have so long held in opposition to civil establishments of religion, by selecting and voting for such candidates as will do justice to principles they hold sacred, and duly support and advocate in Parliament the disestablishment and disendowment of the State-Churches. 3. That the avowed purpose of a party in the Established Church of Scotland to seek the alteration of the law of patronage while retaining the national endowments, and so to renovate and extend the system of ecclesiastical privilege, ought to be firmly resisted; and that this and all proposed new legislation in behalf of the Established Church of England should be met by the demand for immediate disestablishment. 4. That they observe with regret that while the manifestoes of the Tory party give generally undisguised prominence to the policy of maintaining the State-Church system, those of the Liberal leaders either maintain silence or indicate aversion on the questions of disestablishment and religious equality, with the partial exception of the Lord-Advocate's hints as to a measure for relieving fears and others not belonging to the Established Church of Scotland, but rated for its fabrics—a measure which, small as it was, and long since promised, has never yet been brought forward by the Government. That they cannot but regard this policy of silence, hesitation, or antagonism on the part of the Liberal leaders as unsatisfactory, and demanding on the part of Dissenting electors clear assertion of their rights and resolute action at the poll. 5. That such a course can alone avert the danger—that 'Liberal Union' may simply mean a Liberal Government, strong enough, with the aid of Dissenters, to carry its ordinary measures against the Opposition, and, as recently, with the aid of the Opposition, to postpone or defeat measures of religious equality. 6. That clear assertion of principles and faithful action at the poll are rendered the more imperative that Mr. Gladstone appeals to the country in express terms not only to indicate what they think of the past, but what 'further commission they think fit to give their representatives'; thus inviting electors, as indeed it is always their duty, to assist in shaping the policy of the future. 7. In these circumstances, they believe that while many friends of disestablishment will desire to mark general appreciation of the past, it would be to stultify themselves and prejudice the cause of principle to support, where any alternative exists, those candidates who avow their adherence to the State Church policy.—Signed in name and by the authority of the committee, GEORGE C. HUTTON, Convener."

The result of the Salisbury School Board poll has been issued, the Church party being victorious by a majority of nearly a thousand over the Dissenters.

Religious and Denominational News.

THE LONDON MISSION.

The ten days' mission in London in connection with the Established Church, commenced on Sunday last. Friday was especially observed in the Metropolitan Cathedral as a day of devotion for clergy only. A large number of the churches were crowded on Sunday. The Archbishop of York preached at St. Pancras church to an overwhelming congregation. The Rev. Stephen Gladstone, a son of the Prime Minister, and rector of Hawarden, preached the first sermon in connection with the mission at St. Peter's, Windmill-street. Mr. Bennett, of Frome, is the missionary at Mr. Temple West's church, St. Mary Magdalene, Paddington. At Trinity Church, Marylebone, Mr. Cadman preached in the morning on the need of a personal consciousness of the blessings of pardon; gave an address in a catechetical form in the afternoon to children and their parents; and in the evening preached to young men on the words, "Quit you like men." At St. Alban's, Holborn, the mission commenced on Saturday evening, but the church on Sunday did not present any other than its usual Ritualistic appearance, the most prominent object which strikes the eye on entering being the large crucifix, between four and five feet in height, affixed to one of the pillars so as to be immediately facing the preacher as he stands in the pulpit. In the morning there were services at 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.15, and 11 a.m., and in the afternoon the Litany service at which there were not more than two dozen persons present, and children's service for the Sunday-schools, the scholars from which more than two-thirds filled the edifice. On Sunday, in connection with St. Mary, Newington, thirty-two working men went out into the lanes and alleys of the back parts of the parish and sang hymns and read short portions of Scripture at the corners of the streets. At St. Peter's, Windmill-street, a church next to the Argyll Rooms, the senior missionary, Father Prescott, of Cowley St. John, announced that there would be a special service in that church every night at eleven o'clock, "for the crowds who come together in that neighbourhood for purposes of sin." In many cases the missionaries live in a house in one of the streets near the church, and they have announced that at all hours they will be ready to see the people on spiritual matters. The Rev. G. Body is the missionary at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, where he is officiating throughout the week.

The Rev. H. Jones, of St. George's East, has published his reasons for not taking part in the mission. Among other objections Mr. Jones maintains that there is a "hothouse" air about the projected modes of this "mission," which, as he believes, is likely to force the emotions of those who breathe it into a state unfavourable to the wholesome apprehension of truth. The contagious strain of reiterated addresses, night after night, in the same church, the stress of fervid hymns, accompanied by the persuasion that they form part of an impassioned chorus, praying for supernatural influences, seem to him ill calculated to kindle, or to promote the growth of, healthy godliness. "Some minds may indeed be thus permanently launched into a new world of sensation; whether they be wholesome or not is a question. But, with most, what effect is likely to be produced? Is there not a terrible danger, when the heat of the 'revival' week cools down, that a mischievous reaction will ensue, and leave the souls of the majority in a last state which is worse than the first? And in cases where the 'mission' heat survives, where a patient, after the surrender of the secrets of his life into the ear of the 'missioner,' accepts the continuous direction of a parson or a priest, what sort of Christian do we get?"

The Bishops of London, Winchester, and Rochester, have received a memorial directed against confession in connection with this movement signed by nearly 600 householders of the metropolis, among them Lords Exeter, Harrowby, Darnley, Sandon, Lawrence and Cadogan. In their answer, which is dated from London House, Feb. 6, the bishops say:—

The memorial has reached us late on Thursday. The mission begins on Saturday. The preparations in most, probably in all, of the parishes which take part in it have long been completed. We have no information as to the "certain quarters" referred to, "in which there is an avowed intention of using the proposed mission in London for the purpose of introducing the confessional system"; nor are we cognisant in general of the names of the clergy who are to assist the various incumbents during the mission week. It would therefore be very difficult, if not impossible, at this late stage of the arrangements, to take any effective action. We have every hope that it is equally unnecessary. When, at the request of clergymen representing every school of thought in the Church of England, we decided to sanction and recommend a "mission," it was with the expectation and wish that its area would be as broad as the Church itself. It was to be a united effort of prayer and labour directed against vice, ungodliness, and unreality; and in the strain of such an effort all differences may well unite. We did not think it necessary, therefore, to lay down special rules for the conduct of the Mission, nor to restrain the liberty necessary to make it suit the different characters and needs of various parishes, only reminding the clergy that the services conducted in church or chapel are by the law confined, except as to hymns and anthems, to the words of Holy Scripture and the Book of Common Prayer. For the rest we trusted to the loyalty and right feeling of the clergy to confine their choice of the means which they employ within the limits set by the rules and in accordance with the mind of our Church. We were, of course, aware that where-

ever the conscience is awakened, and sinners are asking what they must do to be saved, recourse will often be had to clergymen privately for their comfort and counsel, and that, if God grants His blessing, confession in this sense may be, and we hope will be, frequently the result of the mission; but such confession as this—the legitimate and natural outpouring of a heart touched by a sense of sin and desirous of restoration—has little in common with, and is not likely, we believe, to lead to, the practice of habitual and "sacramental confession" taught as the remedy for post-baptismal sin on the rule of a holy life. We think it not improbable that there are clergymen who, having unhappily adopted the belief that the "confessional system" is approved by our Church, and expedient for the spiritual edification of its members, might be well pleased to extend its use by the occasion of this mission; and we are aware that there are others who desire to take the same opportunity of supplying what they consider a serious defect in our Church system by introducing lay and Nonconformist preachers into our pulpits. But both parties know perfectly well that the bishops disapprove of either effort; that they would never have sanctioned the mission but in the frank confidence that neither would be attempted, and that the attempt in either case would be an unfair and unworthy advantage impossible to be taken by truthful and religious men while engaged in a great work which, without God's blessing, must be the idlest waste of time and toil. We therefore prefer now, as we did before, to confide in the loyalty and good faith of the clergy engaged in the mission instead of resorting to interferences which, while it would certainly impede the work, would fail probably in reaching, if they exist, the dangers which the memorial deprecates.

ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.

The twentieth annual meeting of the English Congregational Chapel-building Society was held at Greville-place Church, St. John's Wood, on Monday, the 26th ult., Thomas Simpson, Esq., of Godalming, in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in his opening speech, regretted that the position he then filled was not occupied by Mr. John Crossley, of Halifax, the chairman of the committee, who had held that office from the founding of the society in 1853. He had himself experienced the value of the society's aid in the building of the new church in his own town of Godalming. That undertaking proved a most successful work, and led to his associating himself with the society in order to help others carry out similar enterprises elsewhere. He lamented the inadequacy of the co-operation of our churches generally in providing the institution with sufficient means for making grants.

The SECRETARY (the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M.) then read the annual report, of which the main points may here be briefly indicated. The twentieth annual report of any public institution is of itself suggestive; the committee can report that whereas they at first aimed at aiding ten chapels a year (which would have made 200 by this time), they have actually rendered, promised, and secured aid to no fewer than 423 cases, affording, probably, sittings for 210,000 worshippers at each service, and so supplying the wants of about 500,000 of the population. The aggregate value, including sites, school-houses, and subsequent enlargements, may be estimated at 730,000*l.* Towards this result the society has in various ways paid 103,495*l.*, and is under engagement to advance 9,395*l.* as conditions are gradually met by various cases—a liability fully covered by balance and securities in hand. The first year's income was 2,700*l.*, at which rate the total receipts now would have been 54,000*l.*; instead of which they are no less than 106,229*l.* The committee have never refused money help for want of funds, have never failed to meet engagements when due, and have never had to borrow for the purpose. The committee know of no instance in which their advice has led promoters of new chapels into losses, nor any in which the chapels aided have come to ultimate grief. Some have been in trouble, and received fresh counsel and assistance; all, generally speaking, are doing well and yielding returns for our common Christianity. The end of last year completed the fourth term of five years since the formation of the society. After the first (and experimental) five years, it became the usage to hold a special conference at the end of every such term for reviewing the past, gathering its lessons, and making arrangement for the ensuing five years. This was last done in 1868, but two years later it was found desirable, in order to continue steadily aiding fresh cases and also to make good sums temporarily borrowed from the Loan Fund for grant purposes, to seek to raise "an additional 10,000*l.* by the end of 1873." Inclusive of legacies and promises, 9,000*l.* of this is now received and secured, and the society closes its fourth term of five years with the debt from Grant Fund to Loan Fund fully provided for; without having had to decline aid to any new case for want of funds, and with a balance in cash and securities exceeding its liabilities. It is proposed to devote the five years now commencing to the increase of the Loan Fund. The aid dispensed from this fund is as effectual as grants in securing the main practical aims of the society, often superseding mortgage, always saving annual interest, tends to reserve for congregations the honour of ultimately paying for their own buildings, and keeps up a constant annual revenue for church extension. The Loan Fund was begun in 1857, the amount then aimed at being 10,000*l.* No less a sum than 19,000*l.* is now received or secured, and the annual repayments already form a very important item of the society's receipts. But the committee feel that 40,000*l.* would not exceed the

demands of this department of their work. They therefore purpose giving their special endeavours between now and the end of 1878, to bringing the Loan Fund as near this larger figure as the co-operation of our churches may enable them. They trust also that by the end of the same term, the total number of cases aided will not fall short of 500. With a view to these practical results, it is intended to hold a special conference of members and friends next May, in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street. The past year shows the largest return in collections yet received, being 2617. from fifty-three churches, as against 2491. from forty-nine in the previous year. The committee attach great importance to this form of contribution. If, say, 400 of the churches aided by the society collected an average of 5%, the annual proceeds would be 2,000%, a sum that might be applied to grant purposes, and might effectually aid eight or ten new churches yearly. And the committee would earnestly commend this mode of co-operation to all churches whose liberality is not confined to local objects; as well as specially to churches aided by this institution. Last year the committee had the pleasure of receiving from Mr. Somerville, of Bristol, a donation of 1,000%. This gift is subject to a moderate life annuity to the donor. As the sum was absolutely placed at the disposal of the committee, and not vested in trust or in any way reserved to secure the annuity, which is simply a charge on the general income of the society, no liability for succession duty can accrue. This mode of helping the work is respectively suggested to any friends who may intend to benefit the society. The committee notice with satisfaction the passing, last session, of the "Places of Worship Sites Act," for removing difficulties in acquiring such sites where estates are entailed. It is encouraging to find that the statistics lately obtained by the editor of the *Nonconformist* with regard to smaller towns fully bear out those published twelve months before as to eighty-four larger towns. The result shows that on a comparison between the Established and non-established churches the latter provide a decided majority of sittings, and have in this respect made during twenty-one years past nearly double the increase, proportionately, that the former have. And in this particular of progress Congregational churches are found to take an honourable position. The committee have had during the past year to deal with upwards of seventy cases; including Cambridge, Gravesend, East Dereham, Farnham, Tavistock, Gateshead, Aberystwith, Barmouth, Bathaston, Barnes Green, Bicester, Bognor, Small Heath (Birmingham), Wheeler-street (Birmingham), Kemp-town (Brighton), Lewes-road (Brighton), Buith Wells, Cannington, Hannah-street (Cardiff), Castle Donington, Clavering, Coleraine, Cricklade, Dawlish, Dedham, Eastbourne, Frampton Cotterell, Gosport, Grantham, Gloucester, Great Berkhamstead, Hadham, Ford, Hednesford, Hereford, Holbeach, Mold-green (Huddersfield), Paddock (Huddersfield), Hull (Latimer Church), Killamarsh, Kenilworth, Leamington (Holly-walk), Llanelly, Madeley, Malvern, Melbourne (Derbyshire), Malpas, Mold, Mumbles, Mantinawr, New Brompton, Nottingham (Colwick-street), Oxford (Cowley-road), Rhiwderin, Rugby, Ryde, Sandown, Silloth, Sleaford, West Smethwick, South Cave, Somerset, Stone, Sutton Valence, Swansea, Tattenhall Wood, Upper Forest Green, (Nailsworth), Wadebridge, Westbury-on-Severn, West Bromwich, Ystalyfera.

Mr. CONDER read the audited balance-sheet for the twentieth year ending 31st Dec. ult., showing total receipts (including balance from previous year), 1,709l. 18s. 6d.; payments (including aid to thirty-five chapels), 5,171l. 5s. 10d.; and a balance in treasurer's hands of 2,734l. 12s. 8d., besides securities held by the society covering loans to chapels to the amount of 7,463l.

The Rev. A. HANNAY moved the adoption of the report. He pointed out in a few telling sentences the importance of our keeping pace as a denomination with the progress of the day in art, feeling, and taste. The Rev. J. DE KEWER WILLIAMS seconded the resolution.

The Rev. JOHNSON BARKER, LL.B., moved the second resolution.

This meeting acknowledges with thanks to God the success attending the special effort of last year to meet the debt to the Loan Fund, and to continue rendering assistance to every legitimate case presented to the committee, and the consequently hopeful circumstances in which the society closes the fourth period of five years' work.

He insisted on the adaptation of buildings to our spirit and methods of worship; the influence of the work effected with the society's aid, as a sign of the vigour of the denomination; and the spiritual and moral blessings flowing from such places of worship, where true Evangelical, Protestant faith was maintained. The Rev. W. TYLER seconded the resolution. He fully recognised the importance of the Loan Fund, and gave interesting details, from personal observation, of chapel building on both sides of the Atlantic; instancing two cases where vast proportions had been made compatible with perfect acoustics.

The third resolution was moved by the Rev. J. S. RUSSELL, M.A. The building a place of worship was, he said, the digging of a well, to be a source of blessing for generations to come. Great credit was due to Mr. Gallaway for the salutary influence he had exerted on the architecture of churches. The Rev. J. C. GALLAWAY briefly seconded the resolution, which was then carried unanimously, viz., that—

This meeting cordially approves of the proposal to make the ensuing five years special on behalf of the Loan Fund; and trusts that by the end of that period that fund may be

raised to 40,000l.; and that the society will have rendered effectual aid in the erection of at least 500 churches.

Mr. CONDER moved the rescinding of the sixteenth article of the constitution, which was adverse to wider applications for aid on the part of those helped from the society's funds. The reasons adduced were, that the rule was indefinite; that it could not be enforced; that it bore harder in some cases than in others; that it had raised a groundless prejudice against the institution; that the old begging system which the rule was intended to correct was by this time effectually abated, and that the society's aid was now chiefly by loan.

Mr. CALLARD briefly seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously, and some other vote of thanks brought the proceedings to a close.

Our readers will be glad to learn that the Rev. T. Binney is proceeding to convalescence.

Mr. Spurgeon's church reports this year 125 lay preachers among its members.

Mr. Thomas Blackstock, missionary, Glasgow, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the church at Millport, Isle of Cumbrae.

The Rev. George Nicholson, B.A., has intimated his intention of resigning the pastorate at Union Church, Putney, at the close of the current quarter.

The missions of the American Baptist Union in Europe and Africa, with the single exception of Spain, are carried on wholly by natives of the respective countries.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.—Dr. McCosh's project of federal union of Presbyterian churches throughout the world was recently taken up, and is to be taken up again, by the Philadelphia ministers' meeting, which approved it. No revised creed is proposed, but each body can come in on its existing creed, provided only it shall be sound in the faith. It is believed that, in this way, all the advantages which might be expected from an organic union may be very nearly secured, without awakening the jealousy of the smaller churches, who might naturally fear being swallowed up or overruled by the larger. Organic union is not contemplated.

ISLINGTON CHAPEL.—The Rev. John Spurgeon, late of Fetter-lane, received a fraternal welcome as pastor of Islington Chapel, on the 28th ult. The Rev. J. A. Spurgeon, of Croydon, presided; and there were present the Revs. Dr. McAulane, Dr. Geikie, E. Paxton Hood, J. H. Wilson, R. Berry, C. Brake, J. Ellis, S. Eldridge, J. Morgan, and J. Shillito. Letters were received from Drs. Allon and J. Thomas, regretting their inability to be present. Dr. McAulane bore testimony to the love and esteem with which the pastor of Islington Chapel was regarded by his brethren of the City Union. Mr. Paxton Hood referred to the relationship which Mr. Spurgeon bore to two such "living epistles" as the pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle and the chairman of the evening. The Rev. J. H. Wilson and other speakers united in expressing the pleasure which it gave them to take part in this welcome. The Rev. J. Spurgeon warmly acknowledged the cordial feeling manifested towards him, which would help to strengthen him for the arduous work before him. About two hundred were present at the tea-meeting. The attendance at the public services under Mr. Spurgeon's ministrations has manifested a very marked improvement.

UNION CHAPEL, ISLINGTON.—On Wednesday, Feb. 3, the members of the afternoon congregation met in the lecture-room of Union Chapel, in response to an invitation from the pastor and deacons. After tea Dr. Allon took the chair, and addressed a few kind words to the assembly, assuring them of the pleasure he felt in meeting them, and his desire to see and know more of those of his charge, who were more especially under the ministerial instructions of his friend Mr. Marchant. The doctor expressed his regret that many of the members who left the neighbourhood did not intimate the fact, so that they might be introduced to the fellowship of other churches. Brief speeches were made by Messrs. Balch, Duthoit, Stone, and Boulton, the latter stating that it was a great pleasure to him to present, on behalf of the afternoon congregation and a few other friends, a purse containing a cheque for 15l. 5s., as an expression of their affection and esteem for the Rev. J. Marchant, and as indicative of their appreciation of his ministerial labours for nearly five years. This circumstance not a little astonished Mr. Marchant, who seemed not to have had the remotest conception that so kind and generous a gift was to be presented. After a few appropriate words the meeting was closed by prayer.

STORY OF A BRAHMIN'S CONVERSION.—At a missionary meeting in the Warwick-gardens Wesleyan Chapel, Kensington, Mr. W. Subrahmanyam, B.A., LL.B., a converted Brahmin from Madras, took part, and gave the following account of his conversion to Christianity:—"In 1854 a school was opened at Negapatam by the Wesleyan Missionary Society, when he, with sixty or seventy other Brahmin boys, entered it. His first feeling towards Christianity was unfavourable, but the godly example of the missionary won his heart. The latter was unwilling, however, to baptize him even after he had become convinced of the truth of Christianity, as he was afraid of being charged with kidnapping the convert. Determined, therefore, to run away to the mission at Madras to seek baptism, and with only a few shillings in his pocket, he walked the distance of 200 miles in seven days. The law restored him to his parents as he was a minor, but he continued faithful to his profession of Christianity. He strongly advocated the impor-

tance of mission schools, and said that in them there were hundreds of young men who were convinced of the truth of Christianity, and only kept back from embracing it by the fear of being cut off from their families. In his own case it was ten months after he had arrived at the conviction of the truth before he took the decisive step of declaring himself a Christian."

EVANGELISTIC WORK IN PARIS.—On this subject the Rev. Theodore Monod writes to the *Record* to bear independent testimony to the good work carried on in Paris by the Rev. R. W. M'All. He says that the meetings were at first designated as "moral meetings," for fear that if they had been called "religious" or "evangelical," the people might think their work was under the control of some ecclesiastical body, Catholic or Protestant, and many of them would have kept aloof. On the week-day evenings (there are in each of the eight stations, two meetings, one on the Sunday, one on a week-day, besides the meetings for children), it was thought advisable, besides the reading of the Bible (which always holds its own place as the Word of God), to read such short selections, whether historical or scientific or poetical, as might interest or instruct, while made subservient to the one great object in view—the enlightenment, conversion, and sanctification of sinners. Many of the most telling Gospel addresses have followed such readings, while many more have been founded directly on some text of Scripture. Mr. M'All has brought a blessing, not only to our working population, but to the members of our churches, stirring them up to new forms of activity and furnishing them with a field of labour to their hand. The report of the mission for the past year shows that the number of sittings has been increased from 515 to 1,056. 1,019 meetings have been held, of which Mr. M'All has conducted more than 500. Several instances of conversion are recorded. The priest of Ménilmontant has been holding forth from the pulpit against these meetings.

Correspondence.

"THE SNAP ELECTION."

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—The *Fortnightly Review* for February contains an admiring notice of the sudden dissolution, from the pen of Mr. Frederic Harrison. Mr. Harrison's contributions are generally not the least able part of that able periodical; his reputation for political prophecy will not, however, be increased by this month's forecast. The coup which was to galvanise the party into fresh activity has failed. The election which was to be decided by the promised relief of fiscal burthens has turned on other issues than finance. The strategists have incurred not only loss of prestige by a resort to sharp practice, but defeat. That such a result was possible you wisely pointed out in your remarks on the "Snap Election" last week, and events have proved your vaticinations truer than Mr. Harrison's.

We shall soon forget the circumstances of the dissolution in our contemplation of the legislative efforts of politicians who confess that they have had no time to mature a policy. But the motives which induced the constituencies to give their recent verdict, deserve a moment's examination while they can still be easily recognised.

There seems good reason, then, for the assertion that a change of Government has been brought about by two very different causes—the aid of the publicans and the abstention of Nonconformists. The contest has been marked by the almost entire absence of the *isms*. Organisations for extending the suffrage to women, for repealing certain obnoxious Acts, for restricting the liquor traffic, and for other objects of great interest to considerable sections of the community, were paralysed by the sudden appearance of the Greenwich manifesto, and found effective action impossible in the short interval before the elections. But the licensed victuallers had been fomenting disaffection among their clients for a year past, and the polling day showed that they had done so with a large measure of success. In many a borough a phalanx of Tory voters, whose principles we may hope were less unsteady than their gait, sallied forth from every pothouse, and, headed by the landlord, marched to the poll to support the Constitutional candidate. There was no secrecy about their sympathies; ballot or no ballot, their votes were given without concealment.

To prove the alleged Nonconformist abstention may be a harder matter; but several circumstances point to it as a fact. The professed dissatisfaction of Dissenters with the ecclesiastical policy of the Government has long been apparent; and it is idle to suppose that the indignation which led to their "political revolt" would be pacified, when nothing had been done to pacify it. When Nonconformist committees declared Mr. Gladstone's allusions, in his address, to the educational difficulty disappointing and unsatisfactory, it was in vain that a few Nonconformist leaders urged the party to sink their grievances and support the Liberal cause. With many, no doubt, the preference for Mr. Gladstone to Mr. Disraeli, for Liberal rule to Tory misrule, prevailed, and they probably defended their course by an appeal to the time-honoured maxim that "half a loaf is better than no bread"; and so it is if there is no chance of ever getting more; but if present abstinence

will result in future plenty, a little temporary starvation may be endured with advantage. It was this consideration—the consideration that a short season spent in opposition would once more unite the Liberal party in a truly Liberal policy—that produced the seeming indifference which kept Dissenting voters away from the polling-booths. Whether right or wrong, their indifference was for a worthy end, and it had a method in it. The Government realised this loss of the Nonconformist vote too late. Mr. Gladstone's concession in the Woolwich speech was small enough, though it was a large one for Mr. Gladstone, but it was made a month behind its time. It may have saved his seat, but it failed to save his party. The return of several of the Radical candidates, however, while the Moderate Liberals have failed, is the most conclusive evidence of Nonconformist alienation in the latter constituencies and the loss of Nonconformist support. Liberationists will probably be as numerously represented in the coming Parliament as they were in the last. Over the enormous loss of Whig seats we are not inconsolable. The part of the Whigs in English politics seems to be played out.

I am no soothsayer, but must close with a prophecy. Probably none of us believes in the existence of a genuine Tory reaction. What then will be the course of events? Mr. Disraeli will hardly venture to reward his allies, the beer-sellers, by extending their facilities of sale. They will learn with bitterness that what has been facetiously called the support of "the public" has been given in vain. Our only fear is that the next election may see them fondly caressing the Whigs. Nor will Mr. Disraeli attempt to conciliate the Dissenters by sweeping ecclesiastical reforms. There can be no union where both parties dislike each other's character so thoroughly, and know it so well. Nor again is there any greater likelihood of our having a coalition of all the incapables, a Government of "moderates," a Cabinet of Liberal-Conservatives and Conservative-Liberals. It would be a Ministry of mediocrities indeed, of which Mr. Forster might be made the chief, as a fitting recompense for having destroyed the Liberal party. But though this is the reward which those organs, to whom Mr. Forster's statesmanship appears so masterly, deem it becoming to recommend, I still think too highly of him to believe that he would stoop to such a course. Thus there is nothing before us but an ultimate return to a Liberal Government with a thoroughly Liberal programme; and the obvious duty of Nonconformists while in opposition is to make sure that the programme shall be complete.

I am, yours faithfully,
A. S. W.

LIBERALISM MINUS ENTHUSIASM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Now that the utter demoralisation of the Liberal party, brought about by Mr. Forster, has been demonstrated by the general election, you will be inundated with philosophical deductions and lugubrious moralising. We are all wise after the event. I suppose there are not half-a-dozen thoughtful politicians in England to-day, who have a doubt as to the cause of the *fiasco* over which few, alas! care to mourn. Want of enthusiasm has been the true cause of Mr. Gladstone's undoing. No one has cared a straw whether Gladstone or Disraeli gained the day. The only enthusiasm has been on the side of the Church and beer-shop party. Deluded, as all self-seekers usually are, into the belief that somehow or other Disraeli would befriend their respective Dianes better than Gladstone, priests and pot-house proprietors have from altar and bar preached up a crusade against Liberalism. Red-nosed toppers have had the hope set before them of an extra half-hour over their cups at the White Hart Inn, if Mr. Disraeli could only be placed in power, and pious imbeciles have been assured that the same distinguished individual can alone save them and their dear children from the wrath to come.

So the two potent influences—beer and Bible, have brought about the revolution, and the Right Honourables whose Ritualistic wives have led them astray will soon be able to follow their priest-ridden partners whithersoever they go. Mr. Forster may carry into his retirement the pleading consciousness of having betrayed the Nonconformists, undermined the Protestantism of the country, and ruined the Liberal cause. And if his cup is not thereby filled, there will be one more ingredient to be added which must make it overflow—his late return for Bradford by the Tory vote!

And what of the future? We have seen what a sorry figure Liberalism cuts in the day of battle without the enthusiasm of its earnest men, the Nonconformists. Paid agents, whose zeal for their clients is measured by the length of their purses, are worse than the horses and chariots of Egypt to depend upon. I met one of the fraternity at my native town the other day. He had some wealthy man of business from Southampton in his toils. The gentleman had made some money, and, like other similarly fortunate men, he would fain join the fashionable club of St. Stephen's. The little town of Wallingford seemed to offer him his opportunity. So for some months there has been an interesting little courting process going on. The local journal, which happens to be on the Liberal side, has been winging the incense-pot before the successful merchant

during the winter months, its excessive laudations culminating in an elaborate description of a grand ball which the said Brown, Smith, or Robinson had been giving in his native town. "There," in effect, said agent and journal to the gaping electors of this borough, "behold the man! Who could be more suitable to represent you in the House of Commons! He is no great speaker, but he can dance well; and of his liberality, both of sentiment and of purse, we can emphatically attest."

What could be more calculated to inspire enthusiasm in the breasts of earnest men! What wonder that a kind-hearted Tory brewer whom everybody knew, and everybody respected, has beaten him, and sent him back to the counter and the desk? And so it has been in lots of places. Instead of principle the appeal has been to the well-known respect for success everywhere found. Elections are, for the most part, in the hands of lawyers, who manipulate their details in a thoroughly worldly fashion. Every elector is duly weighed in the balance—not exactly that of the sanctuary. His antecedents are scheduled, and a ticket is placed upon him recording his exact weight in the contest. Anything more cold-blooded than the whole operation could not be conceived. Recurring for a moment to the Wallingford election, I happened to be there a week or two before it in company with Mr. Arch. Hanging round the skirts of the labourers' advocates were the agent and sundry supporters of the Liberal candidate. Of course, I saw in a moment the little game. A large proportion of the constituency were agricultural labourers, and Mr. Arch might prove a valuable ally. And so these judicious waiters on Providence had turned up to see what might be done. No large-hearted, bold advocacy of the poor labourers' cause had ever characterised the Liberal crusade—nothing had been risked for their sake, and yet now they were to rush into this successful merchant's arms and hail him as their political king! "Are you coming in with us?" I said to the agent, as we started for the Corn Exchange, where a large assembly of labourers and others were gathered together to hear their champion. "Oh no, I'll follow on behind." Fatal caution! The Liberal candidate should have been in the chair that night, and closed his opening speech with some practical evidence of his real sympathy with the ill-fed and down-trodden serfs. The last men in the world to be deluded are the working classes. When Liberalism has passed through the fire as it seems destined to do, it may perhaps get rid of its alloy, and appear once more a thing worth fighting for. At the present it is a mere jumble of contradictions. Its leaders are either without convictions or without the courage of them, and assuming that the loftiest aspirations of their party were bounded by the magic halo of the money ring, they thought to inspire enthusiasm by proclaiming a pounds shillings and pence gospel. Nonconformists asked for justice, and their illustrious leader offered them more pudding. After this there could be but one thing remaining to be done. When the life is out of a man he is forthwith buried, and the life being gone from our pseudo-liberalism it can only claim decent sepulture. From its grave will spring up a new political party whose flag will bear the one great motto which can alone awaken the old enthusiasm—absolute religious equality! That there is power in a principle to stir men's souls has been demonstrated at Chelsea, where vituperation exhausted itself in vain to prevent the triumphant return of Sir Charles Dilke. At Newcastle, also, outspoken honesty has met with its reward. These and other incidents of the present election are fraught with instruction for the colourless Liberals who aspire to Parliamentary honours. The truth is, both Church and world are growing weary of sham, and the same relentless forces which are driving our reverend enunciators of dogmas which they don't believe out of our churches, are relegating the ex-M.P.'s who with Tory hearts affect Liberal principles, to the retirement of their country mansions. On the whole, I see everything that is hopeful in the present political revolution. It is altogether beyond the power of the so-called Conservatives to reverse one solitary act of the late Government that has been beneficial, and it will be equally impossible for them to advance on the same lines.

Within two years a purged and renovated Liberal party will again bear rule, and the remaining blots on our Constitution will be removed.

I remain, yours faithfully,
ARTHUR CLAYDEN.

Faringdon, Feb. 9, 1874.

THE BRADFORD ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The battle is over, and we have been defeated. Yet though defeated we believe we were perfectly right, and we know that we have the heartiest sympathy of our numerous friends all over the country. But the odds against us were terrible. Not only had we a Cabinet Minister to contend against whose speeches were admirably reported in all the newspapers, not only had we the London papers opposed to us, but every Liberal newspaper in the town and neighbourhood (such as the *Leeds Mercury* and the *Bradford Observer*), wrote continually against us, and praised Mr. Forster to the skies. In addition to this, Mr. Henry Brown, late chairman and treasurer of Airedale College, wrote in Mr. Forster's favour, and his letter was largely placarded upon the

walls here. Mr. Lew, the chairman of Mr. Forster's committee, is one of the most influential Congregationalists in the town, and is the treasurer for the Yorkshire Home Missionary Society. Besides all this the pastor, at least four deacons, and the most influential gentlemen in connection with the oldest Congregational Church, voted for Mr. Forster, and most of them strongly opposed the Liberal "two," with the exception of the earnest, active, self-denying, and hardworking young men in connection with the place, who were true as steel to the Liberal cause. When we remember all this, friends at a distance will not be surprised that we were defeated, and will honour the eight thousand, and our leader, Sir Titus Salt, Bart., who were true to their party and would not vote for the man who has sown disunion and distrust of the Government amongst all earnest Liberals throughout the country. Mr. Gladstone may thank him for the Tory majority. Right or wrong we believe that our conduct has done good, for, except for the Tories, Mr. Forster would not now be member for Bradford. At least we know that we have uttered a solemn protest against Tory measures being carried by a Liberal Government by means of Tory votes.

If we are to have a regular system of sectarian education in the country, such a measure had far better be carried and matured by the natural enemies of civil and religious liberty. The loss of Mr. Baines's seat at Leeds is entirely caused by his backing Mr. Forster through thick and thin, and his continual strictures against the Birmingham League, as well as against some of the most powerful advocates of advanced Liberalism throughout the country.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
A LIBERAL.

Bradford, Feb. 7, 1874.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The following are the names of members returned to the new Parliament. They are distinguished as Liberals and Conservatives, and those who did not sit in the late Parliament are indicated by an asterisk:—

ENGLAND AND WALES.			
Constituencies.	Members.	L.	C.
Abingdon	*Mr. J. C. Clarke	1	—
Andover	*Captain Wellesey	—	1
Anglesey Boroughs	*Mr. Lloyd, Q.C.	1	—
Anglesey County	Mr. Davies	1	—
Ashton-under-Lyne	Mr. T. W. Mellor	—	1
Aylesbury	Mr. N. M. Rothschild	1	—
	Mr. S. G. Smith	—	1
Banbury	Mr. B. Samuelson	1	—
Barnstaple	Mr. Thomas Cave	1	—
	*Mr. Waddy	—	1
Bath	Captain A. D. Hayter	1	—
	*Major Bousfield	—	1
Bedford	Mr. S. Whitbread	1	—
	*Captain Polhill-Turner	—	1
Bedfordshire	Colonel Gilpin	—	1
	Mr. Francis Bassett	1	—
Berkshire	Mr. R. Benyon	—	1
	Colonel Loyd-Lindsay	—	1
	Mr. John Walter	1	—
Berwick	*Sir D. Marjoribanks	1	—
	*Mr. Milne Hulme	—	1
Bewdley	*Mr. Harrison	—	1
Birkenhead	Mr. J. Laird	—	1
Birmingham	Rt. Hon. John Bright	1	—
	Mr. G. Dixon	—	1
	Mr. P. H. Muntz	1	—
Blackburn	Mr. W. Briggs	1	—
	Mr. H. M. Feilden	—	1
Bodmin	Hon. E. F. L. Gower	1	—
Bolton	*Mr. Cross	—	1
	Mr. Hick	—	1
Boston	*Mr. Ingram	1	—
	*Mr. Parry	—	1
Bradford	Rt. Hon. W. Forster	1	—
	*Mr. H. W. Ripley	—	1
Brecknock	Mr. Gwynne Holford	—	1
Brecknockshire	Hon. G. Morgan	—	1
Bridgnorth	Mr. W. H. Foster	1	—
Bridport	Mr. T. A. Mitchell	—	1
Brighton	*Mr. Ashbury	—	1
	*Major-General Shute	—	1
Bristol	Mr. Samuel Morley	1	—
	Mr. Hodgson	—	1
Buckingham	*Mr. E. J. Hubbard	—	1
Burnley	Mr. Shaw	1	—
Bury (Lancashire)	Mr. R. N. Phillips	1	—
Bury St. Edmunds	Mr. Greene	—	1
	*Lord F. Hervey	—	1
Calne	Lord E. Fitzmaurice	1	—
Cambridge Borough	*Mr. A. G. Marten	—	1
	*Mr. P. B. Smollett	—	1
Cambridge Univ.	Rt. Hon. S. H. Walpole	—	1
	Mr. A. J. Beresford-Hope	—	1
Cambridgeshire	Rt. Hon. H. Brand	1	—
	Lord G. Manners	—	1
	Hon. E. C. Yorke	—	1
Canterbury	Mr. Butler-Johnstone	—	1
	*Mr. Majendie	—	1
Cardigan District	*Mr. D. Davies	1	—
Carlisle	Sir W. Lawson	1	—
	*Mr. Ferguson	—	1
Carmarthen B.	*Mr. W. Neville	—	1
Carnarvon B.	Mr. W. B. Hughes	1	—
Chatham	*Admiral Elliot	—	1

Constituencies.	Members.	L. C.	Constituencies.	Members.	L. C.	Constituencies.	Members.	L. C.
Chelsea	Sir C. Dilke	1	Knarborough	*Mr. Basil Woodd	1	Retford (East)	Viscount Galway	1
Cheltenham	*Mr. W. Gordon	1	Lambeth	Sir J. Lawrence	1	Reading	Mr. Foljambe	1
Chester	*Mr. Agg-Gardner	1	Lancashire (North)	Mr. W. M'Arthur	1	Richmond	Sir F. Goldsmid	1
Cheshire (Mid)	Rt. Hon. J. D. Dodson	1	Lancashire, N.E.	Col. J. Wilson-Patten	1	Ripon	Mr. G. Shaw Lefevre	1
Cheshire (West)	Mr. H. C. Raikes	1	Lancashire, S.W.	Hon. F. A. Stanley	1	Rochdale	Mr. Dundas	1
Chichester	Hon. W. Egerton	1	Leicester	Mr. J. M. Holt	1	Rochester	*Earl de Grey	1
Chippenham	Colonel Egerton-Leigh	1	Leicestershire, N.	Mr. J. P. Starkie	1	Salford	Mr. T. B. Potter	1
Christchurch	Sir Philip Egerton	1	Leicester	Mr. Charles Turner	1	Salisbury	Mr. W. Martin	1
Cirencester	Major Tollemache	1	Leicestershire, S.	Mr. R. A. Cross	1	Sandwich	*Mr. Julian Goldsmid	1
Clitheroe	Lord H. Lennox	1	Leicester	*Colonel J. H. Deakin	1	Scarborough	Hon. Gerard Noel	1
Cockermouth	Mr. Gabriel Goldney	1	Leicester	Mr. Alderman Carter	1	Shoreham	Mr. G. H. Finch	1
Colchester	*Sir H. D. Wolff	1	Leicester	Mr. Wheelhouse	1	Shrewsbury	Mr. J. S. Hardy	1
Cornwall (West)	Mr. A. A. Bathurst	1	Leicester	*Mr. R. Tennant	1	Shropshire (North)	Mr. Cawley	1
Coventry	Mr. Ralph Ascheton	1	Leicester	Mr. P. A. Taylor	1	Shropshire (South)	Mr. Charley	1
Cricklade	Mr. Isaac Fletcher	1	Leicester	*Mr. A. M'Arthur	1	Somerset (East)	*Mr. Ryder	1
Cumberland West	Colonel Learmonth	1	Leicester	Lord John Manners	1	Somerset (Mid)	Dr. Lush	1
Darlington	*Mr. H. B. Praed	1	Leicester	Mr. S. W. Clowes	1	Somerset (West)	Mr. E. K. Hugessen	1
Denbigh Boroughs	Sir John St. Aubyn	1	Leicester	Mr. R. Arkwright	1	Southampton	Mr. H. A. Brassey	1
Denbighshire	Mr. Pendarves Vivian	1	Leicester	*Mr. W. L. Christie	1	Stafford	*Sir C. Legard	1
Derby	Mr. H. W. Eaton	1	Leicester	Colonel Dyott	1	Stafford (East)	Sir H. Johnstone	1
Derbyshire (North)	*Mr. H. M. Jackson	1	Leicester	Mr. Charles Seely	1	Stafford (Mid)	Mr. Benett-Stanford	1
Devizes	*Mr. A. L. Goddard	1	Leicester	*Lient.-Col. Chaplin	1	Stafford (West)	Mr. A. J. Mundella	1
Devon (East)	Sir Daniel Gooch	1	Leicester	Mr. H. Chaplin	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. J. A. Roebuck	1
Devon (North)	Hon. Percy Wyndham	1	Leicester	*Hon. E. Stanhope	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Cotes	1
Devon (South)	Lord Muncaster	1	Leicester	Mr. R. Wynn	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Robertson	1
Devonport	Mr. Backhouse	1	Leicester	*Sir J. B. Astley	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir Percy Burrell	1
Dewsbury	Mr. Watkin Williams	1	Leicester	Mr. W. E. Welby	1	Stafford (W.)	Right Hon. Stephen Cave	1
Dorchester	Mr. G. Osborne Morgan	1	Leicester	Mr. E. Turner	1	Stafford (W.)	Viscount Newport	1
Dorsetshire	Sir Watkin W. Wynn	1	Leicester	Lord Sandon	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. J. R. Ormsby-Gore	1
Dover	Mr. M. T. Bass	1	Leicester	Mr. J. Torr	1	Stafford (W.)	Gen. Sir Percy Herbert	1
Droitwich	Mr. Samuel Plimsoll	1	Leicester	Mr. W. Rathbone	1	Stafford (W.)	Colonel Corbett	1
Dudley	Lord George Cavendish	1	Leicester	Right Hon. E. Horsman	1	Stafford (W.)	Major Allen	1
Durham, City	Captain A. P. Arkwright	1	Leicester	Mr. Cotton	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. R. Bright	1
Essex (East)	Sir Thomas Bateson	1	Leicester	*Mr. P. Twells	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. R. R. Paget	1
Essex (South)	Sir Lawrence Falk	1	Leicester	*Mr. Hubbard	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. R. Neville-Grenville	1
Essex (West)	Sir John Kennaway	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen	1	Stafford (W.)	Colonel A. W. Hood	1
Exeter	Sir Stafford Northcote	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. R. Lowe	1	Stafford (W.)	Major Vaughan Lee	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Col. Hon. G. H. Clive	1	Stafford (W.)	*Sir Frederick Perkins	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Kennard	1	Stafford (W.)	Rt. Hon. R. Gurney	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Brocklehurst	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. J. C. Stevenson	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Chadwick	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. J. Locke	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir John Lubbock	1	Stafford (W.)	Lient.-Col. Beresford	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Sir S. Waterlow	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Salt	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. G. M. Sandford	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Macdonald	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. W. Powell	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. M. A. Bass	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Hon. C. W. Fitzwilliam	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. S. C. Allsopp	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Hugh Birley	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir C. B. Adderley	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. W. R. Callender	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. C. M. Campbell	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir Thomas Bazley	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. F. Moncton	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Lord Ernest Bruce	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. A. S. Hill, Q.C.	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir T. Chambers	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Sidebottom	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Forsyth, Q.C.	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir J. C. D. Hay	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. S. Holland	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Davenport	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Henry Richard	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Pennington	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Richard Fothergill	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Hopwood	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Bolekow	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. J. Dodds	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Perceval	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. G. Melly	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Cordes	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Heath	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Lord Henry Somerset	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. S. S. Dickinson	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Col. F. Morgan	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. W. Stanton	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Hon. C. Hanbury-Tracy	1	Stafford (W.)	Lord A. Hervey	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. C. W. Wynn	1	Stafford (W.)	Colonel Parker	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. T. Burt	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. E. T. Gourley	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Earp	1	Stafford (W.)	*Sir H. Havelock	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Bristowe	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Watney	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Joseph Cowen	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Grantham	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. C. F. Hamond	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. H. W. Peek	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. W. S. Allen	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir R. Baggallay	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir E. Buckley	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. G. Cubitt	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Cavendish Clifford	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Lee Steere	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir E. H. R. Lacon	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. G. B. Gregory	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Hon. F. Walpole	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. M. D. Scott	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir W. Bagge	1	Stafford (W.)	Col. W. B. Barttelot	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. G. W. P. Bentinck	1	Stafford (W.)	Earl of March	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Elliot	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. L. L. Dillwyn	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Charles Gilpin	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir R. Peel	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Phipps	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Hanbury	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. G. Ward Hunt	1	Stafford (W.)	Lord A. Russell	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Stopford Sackville	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir H. James, Q.C.	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir Rainald Knightley	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. A. C. Barclay	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Major F. Cartwright	1	Stafford (W.)	Capt. W. E. Price	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Earl Percy	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir W. P. Gallwey	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. M. W. Ridley	1	Stafford (W.)	Rt. Hon. W. N. Massey	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. W. B. Beaumont	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Amory	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Hon. H. G. Liddell	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. C. T. Ritchie	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. J. J. Colman	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. J. D. Samuda	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. J. W. Huddleston	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir F. M. Williams	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Denison	1	Stafford (W.)	Col. J. M. Hogg	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Saul Isaac	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. T. E. Smith	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. T. Hildyard	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Green	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. G. Storer	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. E. Wells	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Serjeant Spinks	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. C. Forster	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. J. Cobbett	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. J. S. Erle Drax	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. E. Cardwell	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. G. Greenall	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir William Harcourt	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. G. W. Repton	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. G. Hardy	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. A. W. Peel	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. J. R. Mowbray	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Alexander Brogden	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. J. W. Henley	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. A. Laverton	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Col. North	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. W. H. Smith	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. W. C. Cartwright	1	Stafford (W.)	*Sir Charles Russell	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. J. H. Scourfield	1	Stafford (W.)	Hon. W. Lowther	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Jenkins	1	Stafford (W.)	Earl of Bective	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. H. T. Cole, Q.C.	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. H. Edwards	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. G. H. Whalley	1	Stafford (W.)	*Sir F. Johnstone	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Thomson Hankey	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. W. H. Gladstone	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Captain Jolliffe	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. C. Bentinck	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Edward Bates	1	Stafford (W.)	*Lord Lindsay	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Sampson Lloyd	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Knowles	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Rt. Hon. H. Childers	1	Stafford (W.)	Sir Edmund Antrobus	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Major Waterhouse	1	Stafford (W.)	Lord Henry Thynne	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Mr. Charles Waring	1	Stafford (W.)	*Viscount Folkestone	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Sir J. Elphinstone	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. W. B. Simonds	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	*Hon. T. Bruce	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Naghten	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. E. Hermon	1	Stafford (W.)	*Mr. Richard Gardner	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Mr. Holker	1	Stafford (W.)	Rt. Hon. C. P. Villiers	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester	Marquis of Hartington	1	Stafford (W.)	Mr. Weguelin	1
Exmouth	Sir T. D. Acland	1	Leicester			Stafford (W.)	*Lord R. Churchill	1

Constituencies.	Members.	L.	C.
Worcester City.....	Mr. Sherriff	1	—
	*Mr. Hill	1	—
Wyoombé	Colonel Carington	1	—
York City	Mr. George Leeman	1	—
	Mr. J. Lowther	1	—
Yorkshire (E. R.)	Mr. Christopher Sykes	1	—
	Mr. W. H. Broadley	1	—
Yorkshire (N. R.)	Mr. F. A. Milbank	1	—
	*Viscount Helmsley	1	—

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen City.....	Mr. J. Farley Leith.....	1	—
Aberdeenshire (E.)	Mr. W. D. Fordyce.....	1	—
Aberdeenshire (W.)	Mr. M'Combie	1	—
Argyllshire	Marquis of Lorne	1	—
Ayr Burghs	*Sir W. Cunningham	1	—
Ayrshire (South)	*Colonel Alexander	1	—
Banffshire	Mr. R. W. Duff	1	—
Border Burghs	Mr. G. O. Trevelyan	1	—
Buteshire	Mr. Charles Dalrymple	1	—
Caithness-shire	Sir J. T. Sinclair	1	—
Dumfries Burghs.....	*Mr. Ernest Noel	1	—
Dundee	Mr. James Yeaman	1	—
	*Mr. Edward Jenkins	1	—
Edinburgh	Mr. M'Laren	1	—
	*Lord Provost Cowan	1	—

Edinburgh and St. Andrew's Univ.	Dr. Lyon Playfair	1	—
Edinburghshire	*Earl of Dalkeith	1	—
Elgin Burghs	Mr. Grant Duff	1	—
Forfarshire	Mr. J. W. Barclay	1	—
Glasgow	*Dr. Cameron	1	—
	Mr. Anderson	1	—
	*Mr. Whitelaw	1	—

Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities	Mr. E. S. Gordon	1	—
Greenock	Mr. J. J. Grieve	1	—
Haddington Burghs	Sir H. F. Davie	1	—
Haddingtonshire	Lord Elcho	1	—
Inverness Burghs	*Mr. Fraser Mackintosh	1	—
Inverness-shire	Mr. D. Cameron	1	—
Kilmarnock	*Mr. F. Harrison	1	—
Kincardineshire	Sir G. Balfour	1	—
Kirkcaldy Burghs.....	*Mr. Reid	1	—
Lanarkshire (N.)	Sir T. E. Colebrooke	1	—
Leith	*Mr. D. Macgregor	1	—
Linlithgowshire	Mr. M'Lagan	1	—
Montrose Burghs.....	Right Hon. W. E. Baxter	1	—
Paigley	*Mr. Holms	1	—
Peeblesshire	Sir G. Montgomery	1	—
Perth	Hon. A. Kinnaird	1	—
Renfrewshire	*Colonel Mure	1	—
Ross and Cromarty	Mr. A. Matheson	1	—
St. Andrew's Dist.	*Mr. Edward Ellice	1	—
Stirling Burghs	Mr. Campbell-Bannerman	1	—
Stirlingshire	*Admiral Edmonstone	1	—
Sutherlandshire	Marquis of Stafford	1	—
Wigtownshire	Mr. Vans Agnew	1	—

IRELAND.

Armagh (City)	Mr. John Vance	1	—
Athlone	*Mr. Sheil	1	—
Bandon	*Mr. Swanton, Q.C.	1	—
Belfast	Mr. W. Johnston	1	—
	*Mr. J. P. Corry	1	—
Carlow Borough	*Mr. H. O. Lewis	1	—
Carlow County	Mr. Kavanagh	1	—
	Mr. Bruen	1	—
Carrickfergus	Mr. M. R. Dalway	1	—
Clonmel	*Mr. Moore	1	—
Coleraine	Mr. D. Taylor	1	—
Cork City	Mr. Ronayne	1	—
	Mr. Murphy	1	—
Cork County	Mr. M'Carthy-Downing	1	—
	Mr. William Shaw	1	—
Down County	Lord A. E. Hill-Trevor	1	—
	*Mr. Sharman Crawford	1	—
Downpatrick	*Mr. John Mulholland	1	—
Drogheda	*Mr. O. Leary	1	—
Dublin City	*Mr. Brooks	1	—
	*Sir Arthur Guinness	1	—
Dublin University	Right Hon. Dr. Ball	1	—
	Hon. David Plunket	1	—
Dublin (County)	Mr. Ion Trant Hamilton	1	—
	Colonel Taylor	1	—
Dundalk	Mr. P. Callan	1	—
Dungannon	*Mr. T. Dickson	1	—
Dungarvan	*Mr. John O'Keefe	1	—
Ennis	Mr. W. Stacpoole	1	—
Enniskillen	Viscount Crichton	1	—
Galway Borough	Lord St. Lawrence	1	—
	*Mr. George Morris	1	—
Kerry	Captain H. A. Herbert	1	—
	Mr. R. P. Blennerhassett	1	—
Kilkenny (City)	Sir John Gray	1	—
Kilkenny County	Mr. G. L. Bryan	1	—
	*Mr. Martin	1	—
Kinsale	*Mr. Eugene Collins	1	—
Leitrim County	Dr. Brady	1	—
	Mr. Ormsby-Gore	1	—
Limerick City	Mr. I. Butt	1	—
	*Mr. O'Shaughnessy	1	—
Lisburn	Sir Richard Wallace	1	—
Londonderry (City)	Mr. Charles E. Lewis	1	—
Mallow	*Mr. M'Carthy	1	—
Mayo County	Mr. G. E. Brown	1	—
	*Mr. Thomas Tighe	1	—
Meath County	Mr. Ennis	1	—
	Mr. J. Martin	1	—
New Ross	*Mr. Dunbar	1	—
Newry	*Mr. Whitworth	1	—
Portlannington	Captain Dawson Damer	1	—
Queen's County	Mr. K. T. Digby	1	—
	Mr. Dease	1	—
Roscommon	Hon. Captain French	1	—
	The O'Connor Don	1	—
Sligo (County)	Sir R. G. Booth	1	—
	Mr. Denis O'Connor	1	—

Constituencies.	Members.	L.	C.
Tralee	The O'Donoghue	1	—
Waterford	Mr. Power	1	—
	*Mr. O'Gorman	1	—
Wexford (Borough)	Mr. Redmond	1	—
Youghal	*Sir J. N. M'Kenna	1	—

In yesterday's contests, which resulted in the return of 6 Liberals and 8 Conservatives—included in the enumeration just given—the Liberals gained 1 seat and lost 3. The returns were as follows:—

Constituencies.	Members.	L.	C.
Cumberland, East	Hon. C. W. G. Howard	1	—
	Mr. W. N. Hodgson	1	—
Durham, North	*Mr. I. Lowthian Bell	1	—
	*Mr. Palmer	1	—
Hants, South	Lord Henry Scott	1	—
	Right Hon. W. F. Cowper-Temple	1	—
Worcestershire, W.	Mr. W. E. Dowdeswell	1	—
	Mr. F. Winn-Knight	1	—

Constituencies.	Members.	L.	C.
Ayrshire, North	*Mr. Roger Montgomerie	1	—
Kircudbrightshire	*Mr. Maitland	1	—
Dumfries District	*Capt. Hope Johnstone	1	—
Wigton Burghs	*Mr. M. Stewart	1	—

IRELAND.

Wicklow County	*Mr. W. J. R. O'Byrne	1	—
	Mr. Fitzwilliam Dick	1	—

LIBERAL GAINS.

Abingdon	1	Hartlepool	1
Barnstaple	1	Hull	1
Blackburn	1	Mayo	1
Bolton	1	Newry	1
Boston	2	Poole	1
Coleraine	1	Renfrewshire	1
Coventry	1	Shrewsbury	2
Down County	1	Southampton	1
Droitwich	1	Stafford	1
Dungannon	1	Stockport	1
Dungarvan	1	Stroud	1
Durham	1	Westbury	1
Durham, North	1	Worcester	1
Falmouth	2		
		Total	30

CONSERVATIVE GAINS.

Andover	1	Lincoln	1
Ayr Burghs	1	Lincolnshire (Mid)	1
Ayrshire (South)	1	Lincolnshire (North)	1
Ayrshire (North)	1	London (City of)	3
Bedford	1	Maldon	1
Belfast	1	Manchester	1
Berwick	1	Marylebone	1
Brighton	2	Monmouth Dis.	1
Buckingham	1	Newcastle-on-Tyne	1
Bury St. Edmunds	1	Northampton	1
Cambridge	2	Norwich	1
Canterbury	1	Nottingham	2
Carmarthen Boroughs	1	Oldham	1
Chatham	1	Petersfield	1
Chelsea	1	Plymouth	1
Cheltenham	1	Portsmouth	1
Christchurch	1	Salisbury	1
Colchester	1	Scarborough	1
Cricklade	1	Stafford, North	1
Devonport	2	Stalybridge	1
Dublin (City)	1	Stirlingshire	1
Edinburghshire	1	St. Ives	1
Essex, South	2	Stoke-on-Trent	1
Exeter	1	Surrey (East)	1
Frome	1	Sussex (East)	1
Glasgow	1	Tower Hamlets	1
Gloucester, West	1	Wakefield	1
Grantham	1	Warrington	1
Gravesend	1	Westminster	1
Guildford	1	Wigan	2
Horsham	1	Wigton Burghs	1
Ipwich	2	Wilts (South)	1
Kidderminster	1	Winchester	1
Knaresborough	1	Windsor	1
Leeds	1		
Lewes	1	Total	79

THE POLLS.

The following are the particulars of the polls during the week:—

WEDNESDAY.

ABINGDON, 1.—Mr. J. C. Clarke (L), 439; Colonel C. H. Lindsay (C), 333.	
ARMAGH CITY, 1.—Mr. Vance (C), 325; Mr. Cochrane (L), 214.	
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, 1.—Mr. T. W. Mellor (C), 2,612; Mr. A. Buckley (L), 2,432.	
BERWICK, 2.—Sir D. Marjoribanks (L), 617; Captain Milne Home (C), 533; Mr. J. Stapleton (L), 418; Lord Bury (C), 330.	
BODMIN, 1.—Hon. E. Leveson-Gower (L), 464; Captain Sargeant (L), 236; Mr. Locock Webb (C), 113.	
BRADFORD, 2.—Right Hon. W. E. Forster (L), 11,945; Mr. W. H. Ripley (L), 10,223; Mr. J. V. Godwin (L), 8,398; Mr. F. Hardaker (L), 8,115.	
BURY, 1.—Mr. R. N. Phillips (L), 3,061; Major Walker (C), 2,580.	
CANTERBURY, 2.—Mr. Butler Johnstone (C), 1,488; Mr. L. A. Majendie (C), 1,406; Captain Brinkman (L), 935; Mr. R. J. Biron (L), 873.	
CARLISLE, 2.—Mr. Ferguson (L), 2,184; Sir W. Lawson (L), 2,051; Mr. W. F. Ecroyd (C), 1,714; Mr. W. Banks (C).	
COCKERMOUTH, 1.—Mr. I. Fletcher (L), 506; Mr. J. H. Fawcett (C), 388.	
DARLINGTON, 1.—Mr. E. Backhouse (L), 1,625; Mr. H. K. Spark (L), 1,607; Mr. T. G. Bowles (C), 305.	

DEVONPORT, 2.—Mr. Puleston (C), 1,525; Captain Price (C), 1,483; Mr. J. D. Lewis (L), 1,327; Mr. C. Symons (L), 1,250.

DEWSBURY, 1.—Serjeant Simon (L), 3,706; Mr. Cox (L), 3,372.

EDINBURGH, 2.—Mr. D. M'Laren (L), 11,431; Mr. Cowan (L), 8,749; Mr. J. Miller (L), 6,218; Mr. Macdonald (C), 5,713.

FALMOUTH and PENRYHN, 2.—Mr. D. J. Jenkins (L), 851; Mr. H. T. Cole, Q.C. (L), 784; Mr. R. N. Fowler (C), 743; Mr. R. Eastwick (C), 646.

GLASGOW, 3.—Dr. Cameron (L), 18,445; Mr. Anderson (L), 17,902; Mr. Whitelaw (C), 14,134; Mr. Hunter (C), 12,533; Mr. Crum (L), 7,453; Mr. Kerr (HR), 4,444.

GRIMSBY, 1.—Mr. J. Chapman (C), 1,534; Mr. E. Heneage (L), 1,393.

HARTLEPOOL, 1.—Mr. Richardson (L), 2,308; Mr. R. Ward Jackson (C), 1,390.

HORSHAM, 1.—Sir Seymour Fitzgerald (C), 529; Mr. R. H. Hurst (L), 329.

HUDDERSFIELD, 1.—Mr. E. A. Latham (L), 5,663; Colonel Brooks (C), 4,985.

HULL, 2.—Mr. C. H. Wilson (L), 8,835; Mr. C. M. Norwood (L), 8,499; Colonel Pease (C), 7,705.

LEICESTER, 2.—Mr. P. A. Taylor (L), 7,408; Mr. A. M'Arthur (L), 7,283; Mr. J. H. B. Warner (C), 5,614.

LEWES, 1.—Mr. W. L. Christie (C), 772; Mr. Cohen, Q.C. (L), 500.

LICHFIELD, 1.—Colonel Dyott (C), 571; Mr. C. Simpson (L), 440.

LONDONDERRY CITY.—Mr. C. E. Lewis (C), 747; Mr. M'Corkell (C), 715.

MALLOW, 1.—Mr. Macarthy (HR), 86; Mr. Johnson (L), 64; Mr. Creagh (C), 51; Mr. Nagle (HR), 9.

MERTHYR TYDVIL, 2.—Mr. Henry Richard (L), 7,606; Mr. R. Fothergill (L), 6,908; Mr. T. Halliday (working men's candidate), 4,912.

MONMOUTH, 1.—Mr. Cordes (C), 2,690; Mr. Pochin (L), 1,447.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, 2.—Mr. J. Cowen (L), 8,464; Mr. Hammond (C), 6,479; Right Hon. T. Headlam (L), 5,807.

NEWRY, 1.—Mr. William Whitworth (L), 459; Lord Newry (C), 455.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME, 2.—Sir E. Buckley (C), 1,173; Mr. W. S. Allen (L), 1,116; Mr. H. T. Davenport (C), 1,037.

NEWPORT (ISLE OF WIGHT), 1.—Mr. C. C. Clifford (L), 522; Colonel Twyford (C), 475.

NORTHALLERTON, 1.—Mr. G. W. Elliot (C), 386; Mr. W. Wrightson (L), 379.

NOTTINGHAM, 2.—Mr. W. E. Denison (C), 5,268; Mr. Saul Isaac (C), 4,790; Mr. R. Laycock (L), 3,782; Mr. H. Labouchere (L), 3,545; Mr. D. W. Heath (working men's candidate), 2,752; Mr. R. Birkin (L), 1,077.

PERTH, 1.—Hon. A. Kinnaird (L), 1,648; Mr. C. Scott (C), 946.

PONTEFRAC, 2.—Right Hon. H. E. Childers (L), 934; Major Waterhouse (C), 861; Lord Pollington (C), 709.

PORTSMOUTH, 2.—Sir J. Elphinstone (C), 5,987; Hon. T. Bruce (C), 4,879; Mr. W. H. Stone (L), 4,644; Mr. W. S. Portal (L), 4,588.

ROCHDALE, 1.—Mr. T. B. Potter (L), 4,498; Mr. Gamble, Q.C. (C), 3,998.

RYE, 1.—Mr. J. S. Hardy (C), 597; General Fytche (L), 539.

SALISBURY, 2.—Mr. G. R. Ryder (C), 835; Dr. Lush (L), 800; Mr. A. S. Kennard (C), 783; Mr. A. Seymour (L), 759.

SHAFTESBURY, 1.—Mr. V. F. Benett Stanford (C), 591; Mr. Danby Seymour (L), 562.

SHEFFIELD, 2.—Mr. J. A. Roebuck (L), 13,933; Mr. Mundella (L), 12,611; Mr. Chamberlain (L), 10,837.

STAFFORD, 2.—Mr. T. Salt (C), 1,238; Mr. Alex. Macdonald (L), 1,183; Captain Bridgman (C), 947; Mr. D. Pochin (L), 903; Mr. Allott (L), 621.

STALYBRIDGE, 1.—Mr. Sidebottom (C), 2,378; Mr. N. Buckley (L), 2,220.

ST. IVE, 1.—Mr. E. G. Davenport (C), 751; Mr. J. Bolitho (L), 432.

STOCKPORT, 2.—Mr. C. H. Hopwood (L), 3,628; Mr. L. F. Pennington (L), 3,538; Mr. Tipping (C), 3,406; Mr. P. Mitford (C), 3,372.

STROUD, 2.—Mr. W. Stanton (L), 2,798; Mr. S. S. Dickinson (L), 2,794; Mr. J. E. Dorington (C), 2,763; Mr. Holloway (C), 2,667.

SUNDERLAND, 2.—Mr. Gourley (L), 6,172; Sir H. Havelock (L), 5,920; Mr. Bailey (C), 3,781.

TAVISTOCK, 1.—Lord A. Russell (L), 362; Mr. Russell Biggs (L), 273.

THIRSK, 1.—Sir W. Gallwey (C), 310; Major Staplyton (L), 309.

WALSALL, 1.—Mr. C. Forster (L), 3,364; Major Bell (C), 1,721.

WAREHAM, 1.—Mr. J. S. Drax (C), 502; Mr. Montagu Guest (L), 310; Mr. S. H. Emmens (LC), 26.

YOUGHAL, 1.—Mr. Mackenzie (HR), 124; Mr. Fitzgerald (C), 106.

THURSDAY.

ATHLONE, 1.—Mr. J. J. Ennis (L), 140; Mr. Shie (HR), 140.

BELFAST, 2.—Mr. J. P. Corry (C), 8,412; Mr. W. Johnston (C), 8,176; Mr. M'Clure (L), 4,096; Mr. Rea (Ind.), 506.

BLACKBURN, 2.—Mr.

BRIDGEMANTH, 1.—Mr. W. H. Foster (L), 701; Mr. Barbour (C), 275.
 BRIGHTON, 2.—Mr. J. L. Ashbury (C), 4,395; Major-General Shute (C), 3,906; Mr. James White (L), 3,356; Professor Fawcett (L), 3,130.
 BUCKINGHAM, 1.—Mr. E. Hubbard (C), 589; Sir H. Verney (L), 391.
 CHRISTCHURCH, 1.—Sir H. Drummond Wolff (C), 978; Mr. C. Milward, Q.C. (L), 607.
 COVENTRY, 2.—Mr. H. W. Eaton (C), 3,823; Mr. H. M. Jackson (L), 3,799; Mr. S. Carter (L), 3,662; Mr. Du Pré Thornton (C), 3,628.
 CRICKLADGE, 2.—Sir D. Gooch (C), 2,624; Mr. A. L. Goddard (C), 2,231; Hon. F. Cadogan (L), 2,092; Mr. H. Tucker (L), 1,575; Mr. W. Morris (Working Men's Candidate), 497; Mr. J. Arkell (Ind. L), 40.
 DERBY, 2.—Mr. M. T. Bass (L), 5,579; Mr. S. Plimsoll (L), 4,938; Mr. W. T. Cox (C), 3,632.
 DOVER, 2.—Mr. Freshfield (C), 1,595; Major Dickson (C), 1,316; Mr. Weguelin, jun., 1,118; Mr. F. Inderwick (L), 1,052.
 DROGHEDA, 1.—Dr. O'Leary (HR), 284; Mr. B. Whitworth (L), 274.
 DUDLEY, 1.—Mr. H. B. Sheridan (L), 5,149; Mr. Smith Shonstone (L), 4,181.
 DUMFRIES BURGH, 1.—Mr. Ernest Neel (L), 1,420; Captain Yorsoun (C), 1,123.
 DUNDEE, 2.—Mr. J. Yeaman (L), 6,595; Mr. Edward Jenkins (L), 6,048; Sir J. Ogilvy (L), 4,461; Mr. J. Meiklejohn (L), 2,231; Mr. Lake Gloag (C), 573.
 ENNIS, 1.—Mr. Staapools (L), 115; The O'Gorman Mahon (L), 95.
 ENNISKILLEN, 1.—Lord Crichton (C), 192; Capt. Collum (L), 172.
 FROME, 1.—Mr. H. C. Lopes, Q.C. (C), 642; Mr. Williams (L), 557.
 GALWAY BOROUGH, 2.—Mr. Morris (C), 761; Lord St. Lawrence (L), 606; Mr. O'Donnell (HR), 449.
 GRAVENHEND, 1.—Captain Bedford Pim (C), 1,355; Sir C. Wingfield (L), 1,142.
 HACKNEY, 2.—Mr. J. Holms (L), 6,968; Mr. C. Reed (L), 6,993; Lieutenant Gill (C), 6,310.
 HELSTON, 1.—Mr. A. W. Young (L), 470; Col. Lees (C), 420.
 HYTHE, 1.—Sir E. Watkin (L), 1,340; Mr. Merryweather, (L.C.), 800.
 IPSWICH, 2.—Mr. J. P. Cobbold (C), 3,059; Mr. J. R. Bulwer, Q.C. (C), 2,872; Mr. H. E. Adair (L), 2,506; Mr. H. W. West, Q.C. (L), 2,322.
 LISKEARD, 1.—Right Hon. E. Horsman (L), 834; Mr. Leonard Courtney (L), 329.
 LYMINGTON, 1.—Colonel Kennard (C), 453; Major Cornwallis West (L), 158.
 MANCHESTER, 2.—Mr. Birley (C), 19,984; Mr. W. R. Callender (C), 19,649; Sir T. Basley (L), 19,325; Mr. Jacob Bright (L), 18,727.
 NORTHAMPTON, 2.—Mr. Pickering Phipps (C), 2,670; Mr. C. Gilpie (L), 2,310; Mr. C. G. Mereweather (C), 2,175; Lord Henley (L), 1,796; Mr. Bradlaugh (L), 1,663.
 NORWICH, 2.—Mr. J. J. Colman (L), 6,138; Mr. J. W. Huddleston, Q.C. (C), 5,823; Mr. J. H. Tillett (L), 5,776; Sir H. Stracey (C), 5,290.
 RENFREWSHIRE, 1.—Colonel Mure (L), 1,991; Colonel Campbell (C), 1,903.
 SALFORD, 2.—Mr. C. E. Cawley (C), 7,003; Mr. W. T. Charley (C), 6,987; Mr. Kay (L), 6,827; Mr. H. Lee (L), 6,709.
 SHOREHAM, 2.—Sir P. Burrell (C), 2,537; Right Hon. S. Cave (C), 2,414; Major Lyon (L), 808.
 SOUTHAMPTON, 2.—Sir F. Perkins (L), 2,794; Right Hon. Russell Gurney (C), 2,584; Mr. G. Moffat (L), 2,345; Captain Engledue (C), 2,103.
 STAMFORD, 1.—Sir J. Hay (C), 577; Mr. M. C. Bussard (L), 411.
 STOKES-UPON-TRENT, 2.—Mr. G. Mally (L), 6,700; Mr. R. Heath (C), 6,180; Mr. Roden (L), 5,869; Mr. A. Walton (L), 5,196.
 TRALEE, 1.—The O'Donohue (L), 142; Mr. Daly (HR), 139.
 WIMBORNE, 1.—Mr. A. Brogden (L), 7,580; Mr. B. Mills (C), 5,813.
 WIMBORNE (BOROUGH), 1.—Mr. W. A. Redmond (L), 323; Sir F. Hughes (L), 73.
 WYCOMBE, 1.—Colonel the Hon. W. Carington (L), 963; Mr. H. Broadhurst (L), 415; Mr. F. Charley (C), 19.

FRIDAY.

AYLESBURY, 2.—Mr. N. M. Rothschild (L), 1,761; Mr. S. G. Smith (C), 1,624; Mr. Howell (L), 1,144.
 BEECH COUNTY, 1.—Mr. G. Morgan (C), 1,594; Mr. F. Maitland (L), 1,036.
 CARRICKFERGUS, 1.—Mr. R. Dalway (L), 628; Mr. May, Q.C. (C), 452.
 CHELSEA, 2.—Sir C. Dilke (L), 7,217; Mr. W. Gordon (C), 7,172; Sir H. Hoare (L), 6,701; Mr. G. M. Kiell (Ind.), 1,987.
 COLERAINE, 1.—Mr. Daniel Taylor (L), 237; Sir H. Bruce (C), 160.
 DENBIGH DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. Watkin Williams (L), 1,238; Hon. G. T. Kenyon (C), 1,208.
 DUNDALK, 1.—Mr. P. Callan (H.R.), 257; Mr. C. Russell (L), 225.
 DUNGANNON, 1.—Mr. T. A. Dickson (L), 121; Colonel Stuart Knox (C), 109.
 FINSBURY, 2.—Mr. W. T. McCullagh Torrens (L), 10,099; the Lord Mayor (L), 9,713; Colonel Randolph (C), 7,737; Mr. Lucraft (L), 3,205.
 FLINT BOROUGH, 1.—Mr. P. Ellis Eytton (L), 1,076; Captain Conway (C), 1,079; Sir R. Cunliffe (L), 778.
 KIRKPATRICK, 1.—Mr. J. Torrens (L), 1,010; Right Hon. M. P. Bouvier (L), 5,010.

KINCARDINESHIRE, 1.—Sir G. Balfour (L), 941; Mr. J. Badenoch Nicolson (C), 533.
 LAMBETH, 2.—Sir J. C. Lawrence (L), 12,175; Alderman W. M'Arthur (L), 11,788; Mr. Morgan Howard (C), 11,201.
 LEEDS, 3.—Alderman Carter (L), 15,390; Mr. W. Wheelhouse (C), 14,864; Mr. R. Tennant (C), 13,192; Mr. E. Baines (L), 11,850; Dr. F. R. Lees (L), 5,945.
 LEITH, 1.—Mr. W. Macgregor (L), 4,489; Mr. R. A. Macfie (L), 1,945.
 LIMERICK CITY, 2.—Mr. Isaac Butt, Q.C. (H.R.), 856; Mr. O'Shaughnessy (H.R.), 848; Mr. Speight (C), 587; Sir P. Tait (H.R.), 291; Mr. Vereker (C), 242.
 LONDON, 4.—Mr. Alderman Cotton (C), 8,393; Mr. P. Twells (C), 8,330; Mr. J. G. Hubbard (C), 8,210; Right Hon. G. J. Goschen (L), 6,787; Alderman W. Lawrence (L), 6,654; Baron Rothschild (L), 6,490.
 LIVERPOOL, 3.—Lord Sandon (C), 20,206; Mr. J. Torr (C), 19,763; Mr. W. Rathbone (L), 16,706; Mr. W. Caine (L), 15,801; Mr. Simpson, (working men's candidate), 2,435.
 MORPETH, 1.—Mr. T. Burt (L), 3,332; Major Duncan (C), 585.
 NEW ROSS, 1.—Mr. Dunbar (L), 122; Mr. Tottenham (C), 81.
 OLDHAM, 2.—Mr. J. M. Cobbett (C), 8,541; Mr. Serjeant Spinks (C), 8,502; Mr. J. T. Hibbert (L), 8,397; Hon. E. L. Stanley (L), 8,360.
 RADNOR NEW, 1.—Marquis of Hartington (L), 612; Mr. Cockburn (C), 162.
 SOUTHWARK, 2.—Mr. J. Locke (L), 5,901; Colonel Beresford (C), 5,716; Mr. George Odger (L), 3,496; Mr. A. Dunn (L), 3,121.
 STIRLINGSHIRE, 1.—Sir W. Edmonstone (C), 1,171; Sir W. Bruce (L), 1,127.
 SWANSEA, 1.—Mr. L. L. Dillwyn (L), 5,215; Mr. C. Bath (C), 2,708.
 TOWER HAMLETS, 2.—Mr. R. Ritchie (C), 7,228; Mr. J. D. Samuda (L), 4,900; Mr. E. H. Currie (L), 5,022; Right Hon. A. S. Ayrton (L), 3,202; Captain Maxse (L), 2,962.
 WATERFORD CITY, 2.—Mr. R. Power (H.R.), 536; Major O'Gorman (H.R.), 480; Mr. Delahunty, (L), 366; Mr. E. Gibson, Q.C. (C), 365; Mr. Bernal Osborne (L), 160.
 WESTMINSTER, 2.—Mr. W. H. Smith (C), 9,371; Sir C. Russell (C), 8,681; Sir T. F. Buxton (L), 3,749; Sir W. Codrington (L), 3,435.
 WOLVERHAMPTON, 2.—Right Hon. C. P. Villiers (L), 10,358; Mr. T. M. Weguelin (L), 10,036; Mr. Walter Williams (C), 3,628.

SATURDAY.

ABERDEENSHIRE (WEST), 1.—Mr. W. M'Combie (E), 2,401; Mr. E. Ross (C), 326.
 ANGLESEA, 1.—Mr. R. Davies (L), 636; Mr. Bulkeley (C), 843.
 BEAUMARIS, 1.—Mr. M. Lloyd, Q.C. (L), 947; Captain H. Lewis (C), 398; Captain Verney (L), 258.
 CAITHNESS-SHIRE, 1.—Sir T. Sinclair (L), 450; Mr. Kidstone (C), 489.
 CARMARTHEN DISTRICT, 1.—Mr. C. W. Nevill (C), 1,654; Mr. Stepany (L), 1,481.
 CORK CITY, 2.—Mr. J. P. Ronayne (L), 1,917; Mr. N. D. Murphy (L), 1,643; Mr. Goulding (C), 1,191; Mr. E. J. Pym (C), 1,097; Mr. John Mitchell (HR), 511.
 CUMBERLAND (WEST), 2.—Hon. P. Wyndham (C), 2,532; Lord Muncester (C), 2,520; Mr. J. W. Dykes (L), 1,786; Mr. D. Ainsworth (L), 1,771.
 DUBLIN CITY, 2.—Sir A. Guinness (C), 5,213; Lord Mayor Brookes (HR), 4,838; Mr. J. Pim (L), 1,937; Mr. E. Fox (HR), 515.
 KENT (MID), 2.—Mr. W. H. Dyke (C), 3,710; Viscount Holmesdale (C), 3,542; Sir D. J. Salomons (L), 2,956.
 KILKENNY COUNTY, 2.—Mr. G. Bryan (L, HR), 2,603; Mr. P. Martin (HR), 2,139; Hon. L. Agar-Ellis (L), 1,551.
 MONTROSE, 1.—Right Hon. W. E. Baxter (L), 3,333; Colonel Macdonald (C), 1,875.
 SURREY (EAST), 2.—Mr. J. Watney (C), 5,673; Mr. W. Grantham (C), 5,579; Hon. J. Locke King (L), 4,992; Mr. J. P. Gassiot, jun. (L), 4,115.
 WILTS (SOUTH), 2.—Lord H. Thynne (C), 2,115; Viscount Folkestone (C), 1,977; Mr. T. F. Grove (L), 1,048.

MONDAY.

ARMAGH COUNTY, 2.—Mr. E. W. Verner (C), 3,627; Mr. Maxwell Close (C), 3,496; Mr. M'Blaine (L), 1,673.
 AYR BURGH, 1.—Sir W. Cunningham (C), 1,697; Mr. E. Craufurd (L), 1,683.
 DOWN COUNTY, 2.—Lord A. Hill Trevor (C), 5,000; Mr. J. S. Crawford (Tenant Right), 4,814; Colonel W. B. Forde (C), 4,683.
 EDINBURGHSHIRE, 1.—Earl of Dalkeith (C), 1,194; Lord William Hay (L), 1,059.
 ESSEX (SOUTH), 2.—Mr. T. C. Baring (C), 3,646; Colonel Makins (C), 3,528; Mr. R. B. Wingfield Baker (L), 2,735; Mr. A. Johnston (L), 2,728.
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE (WEST), 2.—Hon. R. E. Plunkett (C), 5,530; Colonel Kingscote (L), 4,344; Hon. C. Berkeley (L), 4,317.
 INVERNESS BURGH, 1.—Mr. C. Fraser Mackintosh (L), 1,134; Mr. E. W. Mackintosh (L), 879; Mr. Mackintosh (of Holme) (C), 16.
 KENT (WEST), 2.—Sir C. H. Mills (C), 5,298; Mr. J. G. Talbot (C), 5,227; Mr. A. Hamilton (L), 3,891; Mr. E. Majoribanks (L), 3,348.
 KIRKCALDY, 1.—Mr. R. Reid (L), 1,967; Captain Oswald (C), 1,923.
 LANCAIRSHIRE (NORTH-EAST), 2.—Mr. J. P. Sturges

(C), 4,488; Mr. J. M. Holt (C), 4,578; Sir J. Kay Shuttleworth (L), 4,401; Lord E. Cavendish (L), 4,297.

LEICESTERSHIRE (NORTH), 2.—Lord J. Manners (C), 2,978; Mr. S. W. Clowes (C), 2,568; Mr. Hussey Packe (L), 1,997.

LEITH, 2.—Dr. Brady (L), 1,313; Mr. W. R. Ormsby Gore (C), 1,098; Mr. F. O'Beirne (H R), 1,055.

MEATH COUNTY, 2.—Mr. Ennis (H R), 1,716; Mr. J. Martin (H R), 1,709; Mr. Napier (C), 992.

QUEEN'S COUNTY, 2.—Mr. K. T. Digby (L), 1,726; Mr. E. Dease (L), 1,638; General Dunne (C), 993.

WENLOCK, 2.—General G. Forester (C), 1,708; Mr. A. H. Brown (L), 1,574; Mr. C. Milnes Gaskell (L), 840.

TUESDAY.

CUMBERLAND (EAST), 2.—Hon. C. Howard (L), 2,943; Mr. W. N. Hodgson (C), 2,629; Sir R. Musgrave (C), 2,622.

DURHAM (NORTH), 2.—Mr. J. Lowthian Bell (L), 4,364; Mr. C. M. Palmer (L), 4,327; Mr. G. Elliot (C), 4,011; Mr. R. L. Pemberton (C), 3,501.

DUMFRIESHIRE, 1.—Mr. Hope Johnstone (C), 1,453; Mr. R. Jardine (L), 1,315.

HANTS (SOUTH), 2.—Lord H. Scott (C), 3,878; Right Hon. W. Cowper-Temple (L), 2,946; Mr. Swanston (L), 2,382.

KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE, 1.—Mr. Maitland (L), 835; Mr. Stewart (C), 831.

WICKLOW COUNTY.—Mr. W. R. O'Byrne (H.R.), 1,511; Mr. Fitzwilliam Dick (C), 1,146; Hon. H. Fitzwilliam (L), 927; Mr. J. H. Farrell (H.R.), 553.

WIGTON BURGH, 1.—Mr. M. Stewart (C), 522; the Lord Advocate (Mr. G. Young (L), 520.)

WORCESTERSHIRE (WEST), 2.—Mr. W. E. Dowdeswell (C), 2,916; Mr. F. W. Knight (C), 2,554; Mr. G. W. Hastings (L), 1,540.

The poll was taken yesterday in the following constituencies, but the result will not be known till to-day or to-morrow:—Herts, South Norfolk, North Warwickshire, East Suffolk, Radnorshire, South-West Yorkshire, East Derbyshire, South-East Lancashire, Cardiganshire, North Ayrshire, Berwickshire, Longford county, and Limerick county.

ELECTIONS TO-DAY.

Carnarvonshire, Durham (South), Isle of Wight, Middlesex, Pembroke Boroughs, North-West Riding of Yorkshire, Clackmannan, Dumbartonshire, Dumfries-shire, Elgin and Nairn, Fifeshire, Perthshire, Clare County, Fermanagh, King's County, Tyrone, Waterford.

SPECIAL ELECTION CORRESPONDENCE.

ESSEX.

Our correspondent writes relative to the elections for this county as follows:—Essex has returned its "Conservative Ten" to Parliament. The Liberals have thus lost four seats—one at Maldon, one at Colchester, and two at South Essex. The loss of Maldon is attributed to the too advanced views of the Liberal candidate, Sir John Bennett; the defeat at Colchester was produced by the confederation of the publicans, and the cry of our national Bible and our national beer; and the displacement of Mr. Andrew Johnston and Mr. Wingfield Baker in the south was the result of the change of popular feeling against the administration of the Government of which they were supporters. Taking the whole county through, the feeling of the candidates on both sides has been in favour of retaining the Bible as part of the religious instruction in rate-aided schools. One Liberal candidate having got into hot water for objecting to the ratepayers being made to pay for denominational instruction, was misrepresented as including the exclusion of the Bible, but he set matters right on that point. On the whole, I believe, the Dissenters in this country have been loyal in support of Gladstone. One Conservative M.P., Sir Selwin-Ibbetson, goes in for the county franchise if accompanied by a redistribution of seats.

SUFFOLK.

Our Ipswich correspondent, writing on Monday night, says:—The defeat of Mr. B. E. Adair and Mr. H. W. West, the one a Liberal representative of the borough for twenty-seven years, the other for five, was wholly unexpected. The influence of Mr. J. B. Cobbold, brewer and banker, was recognised, as was the fact that nearly every public-house espoused the Tory cause; but it was never supposed that both he, and Mr. Bulwer, Q.C., would be returned; yet such is the fact—Mr. Cobbold having a large majority, and his colleague a substantial one, in spite of a united Liberal party. The National Beverage and the National Church have done it between them. The Licensing Act offended the working men; the talk of disestablishment repelled some of the more moderate and quiet Whigs, who don't object to reform, so long as it is mere polish on the surface. The Liberals of Ipswich, if dispirited, are not disheartened; they are, however, perplexed by the supposition that many of the working men must have gone in direct opposition to their employers. In East Suffolk, the contest has gone on merrily. Colonel Tomline has been attending three or four meetings a day, rushing from place to place by special trains, and reaching out into country districts by carriage and four, with the postillions "spotted" as yellow. The colonel, at a meeting on Saturday, on being pointedly asked if he would vote for disestablish-

ment, replied in the negative. The interrogator was, I believe, of Quaker extraction. He told the colonel he should vote for him on the strength of that declaration. The Tory candidates are pursuing the even tenor of their way. The great cue of the Tory party consists in disparaging Colonel Tomline as a landlord. He has a large estate in Suffolk. The chairman at one of his meetings was one of his own tenants, the Rev. I. Lord, formerly a Baptist minister. A rather awkward question has arisen as to Lord Rendlesham's preservation of rabbits, and as to an unsettled claim by the executors of a late tenant for compensation. The Conservatives are sanguine of success. The landlords began to move last week. The polling takes place to-morrow (Tuesday). The contest bids fair to be unusually severe.

DEVON AND CORNWALL.

Exeter, Monday night.

This city on Tuesday, last week, did as most people feared, gave itself wholly over to Toryism, by electing two members of that persuasion with what, to them, were satisfactory majorities. The M.P.'s elected are a dreary falling off after Exeter has been represented by men of such mark as the late Attorney-General, now Lord Coleridge, and Mr. E. A. Bowring, the latter one of the most intelligent and hard-working members in the House. The Nonconformists of the city, it is believed, were to a man faithful in the use of their franchise on the Liberal side. On the same evening Plymouth returned two Tories. It is well known that by persistent Tory misrepresentations respecting the economising operations of the Government in the naval ports and dockyards, a prejudice has been created against him, which, at Plymouth and Devonport, has been carried out with a vengeance; both these towns returning Tory candidates, after going far afield to find them. But such a change can hardly be accounted for by the dockyard pique alone. The defections from the Liberal side commenced as long ago as the elevation of Sir Robert Collier to the judicial bench, when Plymouth went all the way to Liverpool for a Tory shipowner to place on its seat, rejecting its accomplished and eloquent townsman, Mr. Alfred Rooker, a member of an old and highly respected Nonconformist family. By the defection of these towns not only does the Liberal party lose four seats, but Nonconformity loses at least two earnest friends who were always found voting on the right side. Mr. J. D. Lewis, the now rejected Devonport, supported by his vote every point in the Nonconformist programme, and was ever ready to defend it with marked courage and ability. Mr. W. Morrison, the late member for Plymouth, followed on the same side with equal fidelity.

The dismal defection of the great Devon seaports is a little relieved by the better conduct of the Cornish electors in returning two Liberals for Falmouth and Penryn. Mr. Cole, Q.C., and Mr. D. Jenkins will be new men in the House; it cannot therefore be told what may be the precise course they will take on questions most nearly affecting the Nonconforming community. Their opponents seemed to be considerably exasperated at the defeat, and some unpleasant collisions have taken place. The Eastern Division of Cornwall, represented in the late Parliament by two Liberals, is now being contested by two Tories. The Liberal candidates appear to be worthy the honour they seek, but their opponents have all the advantages of local influence. Among their allies has been Mr. W. H. Kitson, hon. sec. of the Exeter Diocesan Branch Church Defence Association, who has the effrontery to send from Torquay in another county to inquire of the Liberal candidates whether they go in for the Church Establishment, in order that "it may be clear whether the Institution should take any course with respect to your candidature." Well might one of the candidates to whom it was addressed say that "a more monstrous letter was never heard of." The writer of it belongs to a family in the neighbourhood of Torquay, that has a sort of perpetual inheritance in the Church, and the good things of this life which it affords, and this limb of it has a sort of craze for using his Church Defence secretariat in every officious way that can bring the association into notice. Sir Colman Rashleigh pledged himself to vote for the repeal of the 25th clause of the Education Act, and in speaking of the Kitsonian note, which had reminded him that Dissenters could now be buried in the churchyard, he said he was not so ignorant as not to know that but what he (Sir Colman) wanted was to allow Dissenters to be buried there "with the religious services of their own sects." Mr. Tremayne, one of the Tory candidates, declared his opposition to the Burial Bill, &c., and had to confess, on being put to it, that when a farm of his in Devonshire was relet, he had caused a condition to be inserted in the lease that no religious meeting should be held in the farmhouse. This sublime Tory held that he had a perfect right to deal as he pleased with his own property, and prevent as far as he might the dwellers in this house from worshipping the Almighty under its roof. His excuse for this very primitive Tory measure, worthy the days of the Stuarts, was that some years ago the tenant held a religious revival in the house, and his own family were very much annoyed by the screams, the noises, and the cries of these people. If "these people" vote for such an enemy to religious liberty as that, some people beyond the border will have to alter their opinion of the religious and mainly character of the Cornish. This contest is to be decided on Friday. *LANCET.*

ton, which we spoke of last week as a borough considered to be the pocket property of the owner of the Werrington estate, yielded its interest in the bargain, by giving the Manchester brewer, Colonel Deakin, a majority of over 300. This is a fine example of a close borough surviving two Reform Bills whatever may be its fate in the days of electoral districts.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

Bradford, Monday.

The severe fighting in the boroughs last week has resulted in a reaction which is quietness itself. In the country districts, however, where the battle has still to be waged, there is plenty of activity, and if the Tories achieve a victory, either in northern or eastern divisions of the West Riding, it will be owing to the political lassitude in the towns. Lord F. Cavendish and Mr. Wilson have addressed some scores of enthusiastic meetings in all parts of the northern division, and have been most favourably received. The general impression is that Mr. Wilson, though not a Dissenter, is a more likely horse to win with than Mr. Holden, he having considerable influence as a "country gentleman." He sat in Parliament many years since for Clitheroe, and was one of the illustrious few who voted for the Ballot Bill introduced thirty years ago. He was also one of the eight who first voted the repeal of the corn-laws. Both Mr. Wilson and Lord F. Cavendish have repeatedly expressed themselves in favour of the universal establishment of school boards and the repeal of the 25th clause. Messrs. Powell and Fison, the Conservative candidates for this division, have not been getting on quite so well. At Settle on Tuesday, immediately after the Liberal candidates had spoken and received a vote of confidence, Mr. Powell was refused a hearing, and at Keighley on Friday, the show of hands at a large meeting was decidedly against Powell and Fison. In the eastern division the contest between Sir J. W. Ramsden and Mr. Holden, the Liberal candidates, and Messrs. Denison and Fielden, will be a very close one, and the issue is very doubtful. The Liberals have, however, two very good men, and there is a prospect of turning the tables on the Conservatives.

In the southern division Mr. H. F. Beaumont and Mr. W. H. Leatham, brother of the member for Huddersfield, are opposed to Mr. W. S. Stanhope, the retiring member, who was elected in 1872, and Mr. Starkey, whose chief recommendation is that he is a member of an old Lancashire family.

A few words as to the neighbouring borough contests. The result of the poll in Bradford was certainly a great surprise to the Radical section of the Liberal party, for although they had scarcely expected to turn out Mr. Forster, they had every reason to expect that they would be able to make it very hot for him. Whether Mr. Forster's colleague was to be Mr. Godwin or Mr. Hardaker was always considered uncertain, but that Mr. Ripley should beat them both by thousands must have astonished Mr. Ripley's own supporters as much as it did the Radicals. Halifax has improved its position by returning in the stead of Colonel Akroyd, whose Liberalism was a very "moderate" sort, the veteran reformer and Nonconformist, Mr. John Crossley, brother of the late lamented member for the Riding. Huddersfield has proved true to its principles and has again returned Mr. E. A. Leatham, who is certainly a rising politician in the front ranks of Liberalism. At Leeds a fatal misunderstanding between the leaders of the Liberal party resulted in the defeat of Mr. Baines, whose name has been almost inseparably connected with the representation of Leeds for more than fifteen years. Although Mr. Baines had grown old in the service of his country, yet his position was considered safe, and it was only by a fluke—thanks to Mr. Disraeli's three-cornered idea—that he was thrown out.

On Monday night Mr. Alfred Illingworth attended a meeting at Gildersome in support of the candidature of Sir John Ramsden and Mr. Isaac Holden, for the South-Eastern division of the West Riding. In the course of his speech the hon. gentleman made the following reference to the recent Bradford election:—

Those who were in the habit of reading newspapers would have noticed within the last week or two that in spite of the tempting programme that Mr. Gladstone had put forward—and he did not wish at all to undervalue it—in which he proposed such very important changes in the fiscal system, that still they had entirely failed to allay the sense of dissatisfaction felt upon the educational policy. (Applause.) Everywhere it had been so great that many of the Liberal candidates had been compelled to change their positions; and many, too, who had had no intention when Parliament dissolved of bending in their attachment to the 25th Clause, had yet been obliged to yield it, as he (Mr. Illingworth) said, on account of the pressure brought to bear against them. (Applause.) They said that for the sake of harmony they would give it up; and amongst them, too, Mr. Gladstone, who had expressed his readiness to reconsider the question. (Hear, hear.) And if Mr. Gladstone had really any serious intention of retaining the leadership of the Liberal party, he would find it absolutely necessary for him to do so, otherwise he would have to do the very thing he had deprecated in his speech the other day, viz., that he would not lead one section of his party only. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Illingworth) had the misfortune to be connected with a borough where they had already realised this very unsatisfactory difficulty; and he could assure them that whilst they did not finish from the responsibility of the course they had taken they none the less felt the pain and humiliation involved in it. (Hear, hear.) They believed that they should shortly be able to show to the country by an analysis of the poll at Bradford that Mr. Forster had

done there what he did in the House of Commons—obtained, and made sure of the Conservative support to make up for the loss of his own party who could not go with him. (Renewed applause.) It would also be proved that Mr. Forster had not secured above one-fourth of the votes of the Liberal party; and that his friends had been obliged—not Mr. Forster, because he could not have taken the humiliating position—to barter and bargain for Conservative support, and through the split votes of the latter in support of their own candidate and Mr. Forster they had thus ensured his return to Parliament. (Hear, hear.) Otherwise it was palpable, through the figures obtained already—and it would be made still more so hereafter—that he must have been at the bottom of the poll if the Conservatives had supported a Conservative only and left Mr. Forster to the decision of his own party. (Applause.) Had this question of education been simply one of the past, and not of the future; had Mr. Forster, as the Minister dealing with it, made a grave mistake, the consequences of which really belonged to the past rather than ran into the present and the future, then they could have forgiven him for such an error; but it was not really with the mere view of punishing Mr. Forster that this declaration had been made before the whole country, that they objected to his educational measure as passed through Parliament, and insisted upon such changes being made in its provisions as would deal with a greater amount of justice towards the different bodies in this country. But the significance of the 25th Clause was simple enough on the face of it, because it was defended on the one side by Denominationalists and fought against on the other by Nationalists in favour of a national system of education for the country. (Applause.) Happily the Liberal party would now, in a short time, take up their position on the Opposition side of the House, and then there would be less difficulty in coming to a perfect understanding as to Government having made a mistake and as to others being so unwilling to reconsider it. (Laughter and applause.)

NORTH-EAST OF ENGLAND.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Monday.

The game is pretty well played out here. A great battle is being fought as we write—the battle for the two North Durham seats. And it is as big a thing as any fight in the country. Mr. J. Cowen, M.P., who lately called himself "a political missionary," told a great mass meeting at Shadon's Hill on Saturday, that during the last twelve months he with his friends had addressed upwards of one hundred meetings in favour of Liberal principles—he had gone from village to village, from town to town; at market crosses, in night-schools, and in public-houses, in open fields, and in covered tents they had proclaimed the principles they believed in. The results cannot be doubtful. The Liberal and Tory members of North Durham will be replaced by two new men, both Liberals, and of an advanced type. Should this be the case, and Lord Castlereagh fail in South Durham, Durham will have the proud distinction of returning no single Tory to Parliament. In the city of Durham and at the Hartlepool two Tories have been thrown out. The following facts are also noteworthy:—At Sunderland (majority of lowest Liberal over Tory, 2,049), Middlesbrough (majority 2,723), Stockton (majority 1,798), and Gateshead (majority 2,854), the Tory candidates were beaten by tremendous majorities. A curious illustration of the working of the ballot was seen at Darlington. Mr. Spark went in to redeem the borough from what some thought the undue influence of the Pease family. He would not canvass, and yet he came within nineteen of his powerful opponent, Mr. Backhouse polled 1,825, Mr. Spark 1,607. The Tories numbered in Darlington 305! The election for South Durham is pending; we hope Lord Castlereagh will be defeated. There is no Tory reaction in the county of Durham.

Northumberland has eight members—we reckon Berwick a Scotch borough—of these four are Conservatives and four Liberals. Of the Conservatives three are county members; the other is unhappily Newcastle. That the Radical borough should return a Conservative is reckoned proof conclusive of Tory reaction. The very opposite is the truth, as a few words of explanation will show. Newcastle is more pronouncedly Radical than ever. At the Newcastle election of Jan. 14 Mr. Cowen obtained 7,356 votes. These were the votes of advanced men, tried and sure, who would be certain to vote again for Mr. Cowen, and (if he could be secured) along with him for another Liberal who was at all abreast of the times. Nor was this all the Liberal strength, for on Feb. 4, 8,464 voted for Mr. Cowen, all of whom probably would have voted for such another. Opposed to him on Jan. 14 was Mr. Hamond, who polled then 6,353. This was his full strength, for in the great agony—I use the word in the Greek sense—of Feb. 4, he polled 6,479, only 126 more. Had there been in the field a second advanced Liberal, Mr. Hamond would not have come forward, he would have stood no chance. He is a man without the respect of his own party. They are ashamed of him now he is returned. His one virtue is transcendent assurance; and the Tories could not shake him off. His main supporters are the licensed victuallers. "Beer and the Bible" has been in effect his battle-cry. The great object therefore was to keep Headlam, the weak-kneed, from coming forward. The Radical leaders were certain the battle was lost if he stood. Neither temperance men, nor Nonconformists, nor working men, would support him, save utterly against the grain; and thousands would decline to back him on any terms. Heaven and earth were moved to induce the Moderates to replace him with a better man. They would not listen, but depended on securing with Hamond the interest of the licensed victuallers, who utterly failed in the day of battle. And

Radicals did not like to divide the Liberal party by nominating a second Liberal themselves. Mr. Headlam, in spite of personal protests, would go on. Hamond saw his chance, and went in to be victorious. The numbers stand thus—Cowen, 8,464; Hamond, 6,479; Headlam, 5,807. This fact is plain—that had it not been for the 5,131 Cowenites, who, for the sake of party allegiance, consented to split with Headlam, this gentleman would have been nowhere, for only 333 thought it worth their while to plump for him. So determined were the Hamondites to get him in, that 5,397 plumped for him. Again so great is Mr. Cowen's popularity, that 2,594 plumped for him, but that number would have been much increased, had not many, as we have said, for party reasons split with Mr. Headlam. Much to be regretted as the issue may be in some respects, the evil is not unmixed. The numerical as well as the moral weakness of the Moderates has been demonstrated, and next time we intend not to consult them, but to run ourselves two advanced men; and if they do not follow suit, to let them choose their own man and go to the wall, as they most certainly will. We may add that Mr. Headlam has been over and over again warned that if he would support the Forsterian policy of the Government, never again should he, could he, go to Parliament. Temporary defeat here, as all over the country, means the sure and speedy triumph of true Liberalism. At Morpeth Mr. Burt, the miners' Radical candidate—himself till lately a miner—polled 3,332 against the Tory, Major Duncan, 585.

WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Glasgow, Monday Night.

The ejection of Mr. Craufurd from the Ayr Burghs, which he has represented for upwards of twenty years, is a double defeat; not only is it the displacement of a Liberal for a Tory of the Liberal-Conservative type, but the removal of a tried and trusty Nonconformist. The fight was keen and close, and on the part of Sir William Cunningham very protracted. The majority against Mr. Craufurd was only 14, and the probability is that had the dissolution been less sudden—had it not happened just at the moment the Conservatives had completed their canvass of the burghs, the seat would have been retained. As it is, no one expects that it will long be occupied by a Tory. The result in Stirling-shire has been the same; when the summons was given, the Liberals were scarcely prepared to enter into action, and in the person of Sir William Edmondstone, the Conservatives have reaped the reward of lengthened and incessant preparation, having carried a Liberal county by 44 votes. In South Ayrshire, the Liberals could not agree among themselves sufficiently to justify a contest against the really popular and able candidate the Tories were fortunate enough to possess; and Mr. Claud Alexander, of Ballochmyle, a Churchman, now subscribes himself M.P. for South Ayrshire instead of Sir David Wedderburn, the advanced Liberal and real friend of religious liberty. These three victories represent the Conservative reaction in Scotland, so far as the elections have yet proceeded, for the Liberal triumph in representatives may be regarded as counterbalancing the Tory gain of one seat in Glasgow. Colonel Mure, though only a moderate Liberal, and not yet ripe on the Church question, sits for Renfrewshire, an infinitely more suitable representative than Colonel Campbell, the Tory with Liberal professions, who, for a seat once gained and once lost, but never occupied, has spent, it is calculated, something like £30,000—a sum representing a distribution of money much more lavish for the constituency than it is good for it, and by no means creditable to the popular wealthy landlord.

The election is so far satisfactory that the Dis-senters are able to claim two successes, although these cannot be classed as additions to the Liberal representation of the country. The Kilmarnock Burghs have dispensed with the services of Mr. Bouverie (Whig), and elected in his place a Radical and anti-Church-and-State man named Mr. J. Fortescue Harrison. And in Glasgow the Liberal candidate who headed the poll was Dr. Cameron, a gentleman who, among other professions of faith finding favour among various sections of Mr. Gladstone's followers, has made a distinct and bold declaration of adhesion to Liberationist principles.

NORTH AND EAST SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen, Tuesday Night.

No part of the country remains truer to Liberalism than the North and East of Scotland. There are only two elections now pending, namely, Wick Burghs and Morayshire. In the former the prospects of Professor Bryce, the advanced Liberal candidate, and a supporter of religious equality, are fair. His opponent is Mr. Pender, a wealthy Whig, who has the Sutherland influence in his favour. Viscount Macduff's return for Morayshire is believed to be certain, though the constituency has been Tory since the first Reform Bill. Cameron will then be the only Tory from Northern Scotland. In Kincardine last week, Balfour (L), was elected by a majority of nearly two to one. West Aberdeen returned Mr. McCombie by 821.

IRELAND.

Our correspondent, "S," writes as follows from the north of Ireland:—Since I last wrote we have been surprised by the turn things have taken on your side of the Channel. Though, of course, the Liberals here regret the proximate resignation of Mr. Gladstone, the more intelligent Conservatives, so far as I can judge, are more discouraged at the prospect of Mr. Disraeli taking the reins of Govern-

ment. They are just now holding their breath, fearing some other "leap in the dark." It is strange that in no single address from a Conservative candidate in Ulster—and I have seen nearly all—is the name of the Conservative leader mentioned. But men are vying with each other in expressing their approval of the Land Act, or promising to try and carry its principle farther, and so as to give the tenants a firmer hold on the soil. Nor have I seen any direct attack upon the Church Act. From this I conclude that there is a feeling of satisfaction with the Gladstone legislation among the great mass of the electors, which even Tory candidates feel it their interest to respect. The county elections with us have scarcely begun yet. What next week will do we must wait to see. The balance of gain will assuredly be, taking counties and boroughs, in favour of the Liberals in Ulster. Belfast has disgraced itself by rejecting Thomas McClure, the best member ever sent from Ulster; but Orangeism in Belfast is the most unreasonable of all unreasonable things, and it is a question if there is not more honour in being the rejected than the accepted of such a constituency. The Tory candidates have held their seats in the city of Armagh, the town of Enniskillen, and the city of Derry, but by small majorities. In Londonderry Mr. Lewis, from having a large majority, amounting, if I mistake not, to nearly two hundred at his former election, has but twenty-nine this time. This creates the greater surprise, as being a man of large means, he has been giving almost fabulous sums of money to local objects. He is a man of ability, too, and professes to hold advanced views. Though a Conservative, he promises to vote for the repeal of the 25th Clause of the Education Act, and to support the Burials Bill.

The Liberals have returned Mr. Dalway in Carrickfergus, and in Dungannon have elected Mr. Dickson, an advanced Liberal, in the place of Major Knox. Coleraine has rejected Sir Henry Bruce and elected Mr. D. Taylor, a local merchant and a Liberal; whilst Newry has rejected the young nobleman taking his name from that town, and has chosen Mr. Whitworth, jun. These changes were hardly expected; with the exception of Newry I do not believe a Liberal ever before sat for any of the constituencies which have now achieved their independence. It may be some consolation to Mr. Gladstone to know that the north of Ireland is grateful for his legislation. You will have seen that Mr. B. Whitworth has been beaten in Drogheda by a Home Ruler; and Sir A. Guinness and the Lord Mayor are returned for the City of Dublin. The former owes his return to the licensed vintners and the freemen; and the latter to his Home Rule advocacy. As to the south and west of Ireland, Home Rule has triumphed in the majority of instances. The contests in Down and county Armagh took place on Saturday, but the results are not known yet. It is confidently expected that the Liberal, Mr. Sharman Crawford, will be one of the members for the former county. [Such is the case, as our list of polls will show.] Great interest is felt in the other county elections in the north, especially Londonderry, Donegal, Tyrone, and Antrim. It is universally believed that Dr. Smyth is sure to be successful in Londonderry, and at least one of the Kennedys in Donegal.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

It has been decided by the Conservatives of Hackney that, in the event of a second election for that borough, Sir John Pakington shall be invited to come forward as a candidate.

It is a noteworthy fact that the Lord Mayor of London, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin are all members of the new Parliament.

The *Jewish Chronicle* states that Mr. Saul Isaac, the newly-elected member for Nottingham, is the first Jew professing Conservative principles who has been elected a member of the House of Commons.

Mr. Gladstone has issued an address of thanks to his constituents, in which he expresses a hope that nothing in his future conduct may lead them to regret the confidence they have conferred upon him.

A comparison of the lists of the old and new Parliament shows that nearly two hundred members who sat in the last House of Commons have either voluntarily retired or failed to secure re-election.

Mr. Dykes, a turf celebrity, died suddenly at Mounmouth, through excitement attending the election. He worked hard for Cordes, who won on Wednesday. His death took place on Thursday morning.

Owing to the death of the Earl of Howth, there must be another election for the borough of Galway, Viscount St. Lawrence, the successor to the title, having been one of the newly-elected members for that place. Although the earldom is not a peerage of the United Kingdom, an Irish peer cannot sit for an Irish constituency.

Petitions will, it is understood, be lodged tomorrow against the returns for Athlone and County Mayo. In Athlone the member was returned by the casting vote of the sheriff; in County Mayo the nomination of Sir George O'Donnell was rejected by the sheriff on the ground that the candidate had not nominated an expense agent.

Mr. George Elliott, the Conservative candidate for North Durham, who voted in the late House of Commons for the insertion in the Mines Regulation Bill of several clauses which are obnoxious to the miners, was on Saturday attacked with stones by hundreds of men and women, and he and several of his friends were severely injured. Several persons have been apprehended.

Mr. Mitchell Henry writes to the Irish papers recommending that after the elections a conference of the Home-Rulers should be held to decide what course they will take in Parliamentary action, and says that no Home-Ruler should vote for either the Whig or the Tory party until there is a perfect understanding between them on the subject of Home Rule.

It is stated that evidence of bribery in the late Bath election on the Conservative side, has been obtained, and will probably lead to judicial investigation. In an address which Lord John Hervey (Liberal) has issued, his lordship says:—"I ascribe my defeat, not to Liberal indifference, but to corruption elsewhere. I speak advisedly, and with good grounds for what I say; and I tell you that if I can obtain sufficient evidence of the corrupt practices which I know to have been used, I will petition against Major Bousfield's return." Lord Grey de Wilton is to be presented with a testimonial, to which a few of the local leaders have subscribed 200l.

The Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington has issued a valedictory address to the constituency of the borough of Droitwich, in which he says: "I have been overcome by a combination I could not have contemplated or foreseen, but upon which I will not here dwell, because I had rather at this moment of defeat reflect upon the kindness and confidence of bygone days, than indulge in useless complaints. Whatever may be my feelings of regret, I have on the other hand the best consolation in my belief that no man of any party has said or thought that my defeat, whatever may have been its causes, can be attributed to any neglect on my part of those high duties with which you have entrusted me."

The defeat of Mr. Gladstone at the poll has astonished the French political world. The papers give various explanations. M. John Lemoine, in the *Debats*, contends that it shows that the English people are tired of reform, and prefer to rest and be thankful for a few years before adventuring any farther in the path of progress. The *Paris Journal* flatters itself that Mr. Gladstone has been defeated because he did not support France in the late war. Some of the papers think that the Black Sea and Alabama affairs were the chief cause of his overthrow. Naturally the Monarchical prints say that the English people are afraid that a revolution would take place if the Liberals were allowed to extend the suffrage any further.

THE WORKING MEN'S REPRESENTATIVES.—The *Beehive* publishes long biographical notices of Mr. Mr. Alexander Macdonald and Mr. Thomas Burt, the new working men members for Stafford and Morpeth. Mr. Macdonald, who is about fifty years of age, is the son of a miner who lived in the parish of New Monkland, near Glasgow. He was taken to work in the mine at the age of eight, but was sent to school in his spare time, and being of studious habits, he determined as he grew up to manhood to qualify himself for one of the learned professions. He entered Glasgow University in 1846, where he remained about two years, maintaining himself from his savings. In 1850 he became a teacher, but subsequently threw up a situation and became a leader of the working miners. He took an active part in the various movements which led to the legislation on the subject of mines from 1869 to 1872. He is at the present time president of the Miners' National Association, as he has been since its formation. He has never had a permanent salary, but has received presents more than once from the Scotch miners and friends in Scotland. On the 11th of January, 1873, he was presented with the sum of £1,500, most of which had been collected by the miners. Mr. Macdonald is unmarried. Mr. Burt is also the son of a miner. He was born in 1837 at Percy Main, near North Shields. In 1844, when he was seven years old, a miners' strike occurred in that district, and the Burt family, like many others, were evicted, and seven years afterwards settled at Seaton Delaval Colliery. Here Mr. Burt devoted all his leisure time to study, being associated with other young men who gave each other mutual help. In 1860 he removed to Choppington, where he married, and became secretary of the district temperance society, and also of the school committee—the school being under the joint management of employers and workmen. In 1864 he was chosen by the Choppington miners to be their delegate in the council of the Northumberland and Durham Miners' Association, which, by his advice, afterwards separated into two distinct bodies. In 1865 Mr. Burt was appointed agent to the Northumberland miners, in the midst of the great Cramlington strike. His efforts in improving and directing the organisation of the miners were so appreciated by them, that when by the Reform Act of 1867 the miners obtained a large majority on the Morpeth register of voters, they, after much consideration, resolved to put forward Mr. Burt as a candidate for the borough, and to allow him a salary of £500 a year as agent so long as he should be a member of the House of Commons, arranging at the same time to supply his lack of service in the proper business of his office.

SIR CHARLES AND LADY DILKE CANVASSING.—The *Daily Telegraph*, speaking of the Chelsea election, says:—"It was half-past one when the motley

and extremely good-natured crowd assembled in front of the Vestry Hall, Chelsea, was rewarded by a sight of one of the candidates—and, what is more, one of the candidate's wives. Up drove, in a victoria, drawn by a couple of bays, Sir Charles and Lady Dilke. There was interest, of course, in Sir Charles, with his pink flower and his yellow rosette; there was interest in Lady Dilke, all smiles and hearty excitement; but we question if the coachman and footman did not attract even more attention than their master and mistress. Over their top-coats they wore the black sable tippets so common in the Bois de Boulogne, and so popular on the continent. And many in the Chelsea crowd took Sir Charles Dilke's servants for Russian noblemen. Whilst Lady Dilke was outside the Vestry Hall waiting for her husband and talking earnestly to the various committee-men, the crowd—and it was rather rough and ragged—showed her the most respectful behaviour. Awe-stricken at first by those fur tippets, adventurous youths at last became bolder, and ventured to stand on the carriage-wheel and "stroke poor pussy," amidst the roars of the audience. "Ah, she canvasses well—she do," remarked a son of toil to me of Lady Dilke, "and she has a jolly pleasant way with her. She was at our house the other day, and quite won over the missus, who would have it Sir Charles went just little too far," and it seemed certainly as if Lady Dilke had the ear of the people in her neighbourhood. In fact, she made an earnest little appeal to the mob before she drove off. "Split your votes, remember," said Lady Dilke, earnestly, and smiling all the time. "Remember, no plumping." And then the victoria and the bays, the sable tippets and the wonderful servants drove off, the crowd cheering heartily, Lady Dilke gracefully waving her hand, and Sir Charles bowing with evident delight.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A Brussels paper states that the eldest daughter of the King of the Belgians will shortly be betrothed to a prince of the Imperial Family of Austria.

In Italy Signor Scialoja's Education Bill has been thrown out by a combination of Radicals and Clericals.

According to the Paris *Siècle*, seventy-two journals in the capital and the provinces have been suspended or prohibited from circulation in the public thoroughfares since the 24th of May last.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* states that the new military estimates of Germany exceed the old army budget by 15,000,000 thalers.

With respect to the recent Papal bull, it is believed in Roman clerical circles that the Pope may possibly withdraw or modify that edict before his death.

A special despatch from Grand Rapids, Michigan, says a report is current there that, while a party of people were skating on the river at Burr Oak, on the Michigan Southern Railroad, one person broke through, and the rest of the party, some twenty-seven or twenty-eight in number, going to the rescue, all broke through and were drowned.

M. MICHELET, the eminent historian, has just died in France in his seventy-sixth year. His historical and other works were very numerous, and he was in former years a frequent contributor to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*.

THE RISING IN NATAL.—The rebel chief Langabalele, together with about 300 of his followers, has been captured in Basutoland by a body of mounted police. The arms and horses of the defeated warriors, together with about 5,000 head of cattle, have also fallen into the hands of the victors.

DISMISSAL OF MAYORS IN FRANCE.—No less than 145 mayors have been dismissed in the Gironde alone. There are elsewhere, in many instances the authoritatively appointed mayors declined the proffered honour. M. Hunebelle, nominated to supersede M. Rameau, the popular Mayor of Versailles, has resigned on finding it impossible to agree with the Municipal Council.

DEATH OF DR. STRAUSS.—The death is announced from Stuttgart of Dr. David Frederick Strauss, the author of "The Life of Jesus." He was born in June, 1808, and was consequently in the sixty-sixth year of his age. A telegram in the *Daily News* says that he has left two unfinished works, a "Life of Lessing" and a "Life of Beethoven."

ARCHBISHOP LEDUCHOWSKI, a telegram from Ostrowo states, provides his own food, and is permitted to have lights in his cell and to read the newspapers. He has requested that his domestic chaplain may be allowed to visit him daily, and that a special oratory may be prepared for him. These requests have been referred to the Appeal Court of Posen.

THE WAR IN SUMATRA.—An official despatch from Acheen shows that the war in Sumatra is not yet over. The Acheenese chiefs, the despatch says, remain hostile, and are erecting forts in the interior. This, however, is not regarded as of much importance, the capture of the Kraton having broken the enemy's strength. A rumour was current that the Sultan of Acheen was dead.

DISTRESS IN AUSTRIA.—A *Daily News* telegram says that the memorandum of the working men to the Reichsrath, which has just been published, states that there is great distress, not only in Vienna, but in Moravia, Silesia, and Bohemia. In Bohemia famine fever prevails. It is stated that the Ministry is resolved to push on several large Government works in order to relieve the distress.

The number of clerks out of employ in Vienna is estimated at six thousand.

THE VILLE DU HAVRE.—The Rev. Emile Cook, the Paris Protestant minister, saved from the Ville du Havre, and then from the Loch Earn, died on Thursday in the South of France, where he had gone with the hope of restoring a constitution shattered by exposure on the night of the fearful shipwreck. Mr. Cook refused to leave a brother minister who was injured, and remained on board the Loch Earn.

A HIGH CHURCH MISSION to the poor Europeans in India has arrived in Bombay, another batch is on its way to Bengal. The men belong to an Anglican order, which has its chief house at Cowley, near Oxford. They are vowed to celibacy, and go about in a queer adaption of Romish canonicals. But their work is sufficiently noble, and will prove sufficiently hard and discouraging, as to render it a matter of indifference in what clothes they do it.—*Correspondent of Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE JESUIT COLLEGE AT INNSBRUCK.—The Austrian Parliament has by a decided vote against the Government and the Ultramontanes resolved that the Theological College at Innsbruck, which is quite in the hands of the Jesuits, be broken up in July next. The college is looked upon as the nursery of Jesuitism for Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. Of the 200 alumni matriculated, only 60 are Austrian subjects, and on this ground the Chamber has formally determined that the college, which trains chiefly foreigners, cannot in fairness be supported out of Austrian funds.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH arrived at Moscow on Wednesday night. The streets were brilliantly illuminated and filled with large crowds. On Thursday there was a grand reception at Moscow, at which the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh received the congratulations of the nobles and were presented with a golden casket. In the evening a state performance took place at the theatre. They returned to St. Petersburg on Monday. An ironclad frigate is to be built at the Baltic Iron Works and named after the Duke of Edinburgh, the ceremony of laying the keel being fixed for the 9th inst.

THE GERMAN PARLIAMENT.—On Thursday the German Parliament was opened by commission, and Prince Bismarck read the speech from the throne. The speech, after expressing the regret of the Emperor at being unable to be present, refers to the fact that representatives appear for the first time in the House from Alsace-Lorraine. It is pointed out that the principal measure to be presented to the Parliament will be the Military Bill, the object of which is to clearly define the military strength of Germany. Among the other measures to be introduced are a new press law, and a bill to regulate trade disputes between masters and workmen. In conclusion, reference is made to the satisfactory state of the foreign relations of Germany.

THE NEXT PAPAL CONCLAVE.—The *New Free Press* publishes a note dated the 1st of January, and directed to the Italian ambassador by M. Visconti-Venosta, respecting the latest consistory and the future conclave. The Minister expresses great regret at the manner in which the latest appointment of cardinals was effected—namely, in a secret consistory, without any festive display, since the Italian Government could never fail to respect the full liberty guaranteed to the Pope. Respecting the attitude of the Italian Government towards the conclave, Signor Visconti-Venosta says that the Government intends to adopt all necessary measures to protect the conclave from external disturbance. The Minister cites several paragraphs from the law on the Papal guarantees supporting this intention, which will be followed conscientiously and to the letter, so as to remove all fears. The conclave, if held in Rome, will be exceptionally safe, and will enjoy the same security, the same dignity, and the same tranquillity as on former occasions. In conclusion, the Minister expresses a sincere hope that the next conclave may be still at any rate some years off.

HABITS OF THE CZAR.—A *Post* correspondent gives the following account of the Duke of Edinburgh's new father-in-law:—"The Emperor has the reputation of being the hardest worked man in Russia. Every morning, with the regularity of clockwork, he takes a walk in the gardens of the Winter Palace for twenty minutes, accompanied by his dogs, and on his return to the palace he works until luncheon, which is served at twelve o'clock. Immediately afterwards His Majesty resumes work, receiving his ministers, or giving audiences to those who desire to see him. With the exception of half an hour's rest, the Czar is occupied in this manner until two o'clock. He then goes out for a couple of hours' walking or driving, and it may be remarked that as a rule the imperial family are very particular in regard to their daily exercise. Dinner is served at six p.m., after which the Emperor sets to work again, and, if necessary, does not cease the occupation upon which he may be engaged until after midnight, sometimes not until one or two in the morning. Usually His Majesty goes out shooting once a week, and occasionally he visits the theatre, where, however, he seldom remains more than half an hour. The Czar is a man of wonderful punctuality in his habits, while his pleasant manner endears him to all who are brought within the sphere of his friendship or acquaintance."

THE RUSSIAN PRIZE OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S MARRIAGE.—The Russian journals are unanimous in their comments respecting the political significance of the union of the reigning

families of England and Russia. This union, they are of opinion, must promote the welfare, not only of the two countries immediately concerned, but of Europe generally. The *Exchange Gazette* points out that both courts are now strongly interested in averting every incident that might be of a nature to sow mistrust between the English and Russian nations, and that English capital will consequently be employed to a much greater extent than before in Russian industrial undertakings. "The English will thus have the opportunity of exercising their enterprising spirit in a country especially rich in natural treasures, and under the protection of an orderly and settled Government, instead of wasting their energies in distant and uncultivated regions. As to Turkey and Central Asia, the *Exchange Gazette* does not think that there is now any danger of a conflict. "If Russia and England become convinced that Central Asia would be much more rapidly and securely opened to civilisation by their agreeing to act together with their combined moral and material forces, this would be a triumph of peaceful ideas on which all humanity might congratulate itself." The *Golos* says that a further guarantee of the permanent co-operation of England and Russia is to be found in the fact that during the last twenty years they alone, of all the great powers, have not taken part in any European war, thereby showing their desire to settle all international differences by peaceful means. The *Moscow Gazette* attaches especial importance to the circumstance that the marriage was not the work of diplomats, but a real marriage of mutual attachment, and it thinks that this cannot fail to produce a corresponding effect on political affairs.

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS OF PEACE BY THE KING OF ASHANTEE.

The following telegram from Sir Garnet Wolsley was received by the Secretary of State for War on Thursday:—

"Adansi Hill, Jan. 24.

"All the white prisoners are now in my camp. The king accepts the terms I offer, and says he will pay the indemnity I demanded—two hundred thousand pounds. I halt to-morrow for a few days at Foomanah (? Tommanah), thirty miles from Coomassie. All going right."

A preceding telegram to January 16 eight days previous to the above, contained the following information:—"Fresh messengers from the King of Ashantee have arrived at the British camp, but have not been allowed to advance beyond our most northern outposts. They were accompanied by Herr Kuhner, a German missionary, who had been kept a prisoner by the Ashantees. Herr Kuhner is now with Sir Garnet Wolsley's staff at Prahu. The messengers are understood to be authorised to treat for peace, but the exact purport of the communication they bring from the King to Sir Garnet Wolsley is not known. Eleven hundred seamen and marines, with one hundred white troops of each regiment, were within one day's march of Coomassie, with General Wolsley, except the 23rd Regiment, who are not disembarked. There was great trouble with native carriers, who have all run away. The stores were carried to the front by volunteers of First and Second West India Regiment. There is no fighting. The troops are in good health. High spirits prevail among both soldiers and sailors, the latter having enjoyed their excursion into the interior immensely. The few who are too sick to proceed have been sent down to the coast, and shipped on board the Victor Emmanuel to cruise off the land. The hope that Captain Glover will be able to join Sir Garnet Wolsley in time to be of service seems to have been abandoned. The troops had not got up to the front, Sir Garnet being still supported mainly by sailors and marines."

According to telegraphic news to Jan. 15th, the King of Ashantee had sent fresh letters to Sir Garnet Wolsley, in which he expressed his desire for peace if he could get off cheaply, and the English would cease to advance on Coomassie. Sir Garnet Wolsley replied, however, that he could only treat with the king himself, and could not abandon his intention of marching on the capital. The white troops were to start for Prahu on the 23rd. Captain Glover had obtained more men than was expected, but experienced great difficulty with regard to transport. The health of the troops afloat and ashore was excellent. Sir Garnet Wolsley had reached a point fourteen miles beyond Prahu. Scouts had been sent to a distance of forty miles from Coomassie without discovering traces of the enemy.

Mr. Gerard Baldwin Brown (scholar), of Oriel College, Oxford, has been elected out of fourteen candidates, after a hard competitive examination, to the vacant Fellowship at Brasenose College. Mr. Brown is a "first-class" man, but has not yet taken his degree.

A Bunyan statue, to be erected at Bedford, has just been cast at the works of Messrs. H. Young and Co., art-founders, Pimlico. The attitude is that of the preacher with the open book in his left hand, and at his feet have fallen the symbols of the prison.

At the recent matriculation of the University of London, Mr. E. H. Parkyn, of Amersham Hall School, obtained one of the exhibitions; and S. H. Case, of the Baptist College, Bristol, and H. Havell-Robinson, of the College, Regent's Park, passed in the first class.

TO the LIBERAL ELECTORS of the BOROUGH of SOUTHWARK.

GENTLEMEN,—
Although defeated I am not discouraged. To those 8,121 electors who honoured me by their support on Thursday I hereby tender my grateful thanks. The Liberal cause has suffered, but my Committee and myself feel that we are not responsible. When I accepted the requisition of nearly 2,000 electors last year, we rested sure, on high authority, that Mr. Odger would not again be put forward. Had he kept away we should now have defeated the Conservative and set the borough free. On the contrary, had I never appeared it is evident that he could not have succeeded against the sitting members. Let us be united next time and victory shall be ours.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,
Yours respectfully,
ANDREW DUNN.

Crown Iron Yard, Southwark-street, Feb. 7.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several communications we have received are crowded out.

ERRATA.—In Mr. Gordon's letter last week, "rules," in line forty-one, should have been printed "ruler;" the full stop, in line forty-eight, should have been a comma, and "partly" should have been "pertly;" the full stop, in line forty-nine, should also have been a comma; "law," in line fifty-eight, should have been "tax;" and "promise," in the last line, "province," besides one or two other misprints, which would appear to the reader.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1874.

SUMMARY.

THE result of the general election thus far—many important county contests which took place yesterday not being at present known—has been the return of 551 members to the new House of Commons out of 658, including a double return for Athlone. The Conservatives have gained 81 seats and lost 29; being a balance of 52 in their favour. There is, therefore, every probability that Mr. Disraeli will command a majority in the House of Commons which meets on March 5, of at least forty party votes. His advent to power is of course only a question of time. As the Cabinet has not met since the dissolution was decreed, it is not yet known whether Mr. Gladstone will meet the new Legislature and allow himself to be voted out of office, or resign as soon as the elections are concluded. The former course is recommended by general convenience, the latter only by precedent.

Whichever alternative is taken, Mr. Disraeli is not likely to waste time. The Prime Minister expectant has had interviews with other chiefs of the Conservative party; notably, with the Earl of Derby and the Marquis of Salisbury. The former may be expected to resume his previous position as Foreign Minister; the latter is specially fitted at this critical moment to take upon himself the grave responsibilities of Secretary of State for India, if he can overcome his personal prejudices against Mr. Disraeli. The consent of both Lord Salisbury and Lord Carnarvon to enter the Cabinet would, of course, at first starting, give strength and coherence to the incoming Government. The Premier will in vain search among his adherents for a worthy successor to Mr. Gladstone as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and it is uncertain whether he will claim—as he may do—to have the choice of a new Speaker in the new House from his own ranks, or be satisfied to re-elect Mr. Brand, who has proved to be well qualified for that position.

Yesterday the Conservative leader addressed his constituents at Buckingham. His speech was radiant with satisfaction at the issue of the general election, but not wanting in frankness and in a sense of the responsibilities which the country has placed upon him. He does not see in the elections any signs of an "internecine hostility between capital and labour," and is quite congratulatory to the two representatives of working men who have found their way into Parliament, and still more so at the victories gained by the Conservatives in large towns such as London, Leeds, Manchester, and Glasgow—though the case of Leeds, lost to the Liberals by needless disunion, will hardly bear examination. The right hon. gentleman is quite justified in pointing to the recent electoral decisions as proof, that the measure for household suffrage he himself carried has not handed over the country to a pure democracy. By his pointed reference to the Indian famine, his complimentary allusion to the present Governor-General, and his hints that that terrible calamity will need to be considered in connection with a huge financial surplus, Mr. Disraeli has said the right thing at the right time. Not less judicious was his repudiation of Home Rule aspirations as interpreted in Ireland. But in dealing with the education problem, Mr. Disraeli relapsed into his customary style of misrepresentation. While ostentatiously pointing out that Mr. Gladstone's Government have, in consequence of the exigencies of their position, accepted a compromise, he avers that "the only question before the country is whether its national education shall be furnished on the consecrated basis of religion, or whether it shall be a purely

secular education," which is notoriously a distorted view of the case. However, Mr. Disraeli is pleased to accept the 25th clause as a symbol of the controversy, and to declare that he resolutely stands by it—thus taking up at the outset a false position which will be a great advantage to his educational opponents.

Last Thursday, when the election contests were at the hottest, a telegram from Sir Garnet Wolseley reached the Government, announcing that he was about thirty miles from Coomassie, and that the King of Ashantee had returned all the white prisoners in his custody, and had accepted the terms of peace offered, which included an indemnity of 200,000*l*. There seems to have been no fighting; and Sir Garnet, while halting for a few days, was apparently bent on marching on the capital, where apparently he would meet with no resistance. How this telegram, eight days in advance of the ordinary mail, came to hand, is not explained. But preceding advices indicated the desire of the king for peace, and that a part of the British troops was within a day's march of Coomassie. There is, at all events, no information to hand which throws doubt on the early termination of this African war, which, apart from the skirmishes on the coast, seems happily destined to end without fighting, and without making the Ashantees our enemies for the future.

The continental news of the week is not of first-rate importance. Two fresh elections in France have resulted in the return of a Republican and a Bonapartist, and Marshal MacMahon has assured a commercial deputation that public feeling may be reassured, as he is resolved to maintain the "Septennat" with all the power confided to him.—The German Parliament has been opened with a speech from the throne, somewhat modified at the last moment in consequence of satisfactory assurances for Italy in respect to the La Marmora escapade. But the health of the Emperor William is seriously impaired, and excites much anxiety, and those who are opposed to the Bismarck ecclesiastical policy are doing their utmost to work on the fears of His Majesty, not, it appears, without some hopes of success.

This morning's news from India is very distressing. We are told that terrible distress exists in Goruckpore, where rice is one shilling for six pounds, the relief works crowded, and starving children are entering the Missionary Orphanage. In other places the labourers exist on one meal a day, and in Behar prices are double the average, 100,000 labourers employed on the works, besides the railway and canal, and that people are panic-stricken, and suffer great privation, women and children being occasionally employed on the roads. Not too soon the Lord Mayor of London has opened a national subscription at the Mansion House.

HOW IT HAS COME ABOUT?

PHREW! What a smash! Who can look upon the electoral *debacle* of the last few days without being "struck into a heap," to use a slang phrase, by the mere outline of the scene before him? What Liberal amongst us—or Tory, we may add—would have dared to imagine, three weeks ago, that it would come to this? Perhaps, the right moment has not yet arrived for tracing out the causes which, in their combination, have led to this extensive and unforeseen overthrow; but the human mind is not usually very observant of proper times and seasons, in seeking with regard to any great cataclysm, social, moral, or political, for the *primæ facie* reasons of its occurrence. No one, it may be suggested, can yet give any clear and complete account of the forces which have been at work for the destruction of the Gladstone Administration. In the main, as we have elsewhere ventured to remark, we think it must be attributed to a mood of Conservatism which, just at present, dominates the constituent body. But while we take this to be a fair explanation of the facts which the general election has thrown up to the surface; and whilst we feel bound to admit that the real mind of the country, for the time being, has been honestly expressed; we believe also that the full significance of this startling passage of English history will be missed if we should neglect to take into account the numerous secondary influences which, each in its own degree, has told against the further continuance in power of the present Cabinet. Possibly, none of these minor adverse conditions—nor all of them put together—would have sufficed to destroy the Liberal majority unless they had been backed by a heavy pressure of so-called Conservative sentiment. But, unquestionably, they have had something to do in bringing about the result which is before us.

In the first place, there is truth in the com-

plaint that the course of legislation, which was guided by the Gladstone Government during the five years of its tenure of office, has greatly disturbed, if not "harassed," several powerful interests. A programme of reform worth pursuing at all must necessarily do this. It is to the credit of the Premier and his colleagues that their legislation went deep enough in several directions to touch, and seriously to offend, vested rights of ancient pretensions and of great power. The Church, the land, the army, the publicans, and several lesser bodies that may be said to have derived their standing in society from the special privilege given to them by law, could hardly be expected to have that privilege wrested from them, either in whole or in part, without a feeling of deep resentment against the leaders of the political force by which their deprivation was successfully accomplished. While, perhaps, these measures did not extensively convert men of Liberal opinions into Tories, they did rouse into unwonted activity the angry passions of those who were opposed to them. We fear it must be taken for granted that the greater and more solid the benefits achieved for the country by a Reforming Administration, the more probable it is that its period of official supremacy will be cut short. There is necessarily a great deal of rough work needing to be done by those who undertake political ameliorations of any considerable value, and sometimes in the doing of it the energy displayed is more conspicuous than the tact.

This leads us to observe that the manner in which Mr. Gladstone and his associates in the Government prosecuted some at least of their more important measures, created a considerable amount of discontent. There was, perhaps, from first to last, too strong an inclination to drive on—not so tempered as it might have been with consideration for human infirmities. The amount of sheer hard work (the doing of which practically involved not only unflagging labour, but incessant worries and anxieties) compressed into five years, may be looked back upon very justly as a matter of congratulation. But its exhausting effect both upon Parliament and people was sure to make itself manifest in course of time, just as a lengthened journey on a railway at express speed leaves upon almost all passengers alike a sense of enervation. Nor was it possible that this system could be pursued without occasioning some appearance of dictatorial unreasonableness. There were things said, and things done, in the last Parliament, by men whose honourable reputation none would think of challenging, which engendered resentful feeling over wide sections of the community. We do not say that they had the effect of reversing the politics of many of those whom they displeased; but they went very far indeed towards extinguishing the fire of enthusiasm which in 1868 was found to be of such eminent service to the Liberal leaders.

Perhaps, the tinge of self-will and caprice which most people thought they could see in the abrupt dissolution of Parliament, may be looked upon as the last, and we may say, the crowning, illustration of this fault of manner. It was very much like an outburst of egotistic impatience. We do not say that it may not have been prompted by the purest patriotism, or, at any rate, by a legitimate party spirit. But the public naturally felt itself treated with but scant ceremony by the arrangement, and the financial proposals which accompanied the announcement of it rather increased than lessened the disapprobation with which it was regarded. The subordinate members of the administration whose duty it was to lay before the Premier the local information by which he probably wished to be guided in this matter, must have been terribly at sea. They could hardly have felt the pulse of the country with careful attention. No doubt, the effect of the ballot largely interfered with the accuracy of their routine calculations. But, be this as it may, the step taken by Mr. Gladstone seems to have been taken without adequate reason, and to have helped mightily towards producing the final disaster. It is true that the surprise came upon both parties alike, but it did not find them in a like condition. The Liberals, as it has often been remarked, are obliged to put up with a looser organisation than the Tories, and hence require more time for preparation than their political adversaries when any great conflict is at hand. All things considered, we are surprised that they have made so gallant a fight, though at the same time we were wholly unprepared for the completeness of their defeat. We are glad, however, that since they were destined to succumb to their rivals, there is no room for questioning the relative strength of the two parties. Anything approaching to "a tie" between them would have been a cause for regret. It would have occasioned intense

bitterness of feeling without leading to any useful practical result.

The present game may be considered to have been played out, and we Liberals have been soundly beaten. Let us now pause for a while, not in despondency, but in hope. Let the duties of a minority be faithfully discharged. Let Conservatism show to the country what it means to do, and how it means to do it. Meanwhile, honest criticism, and not factious obstruction, will best suit the position to which public opinion has relegated the Liberal party. The next turn of the wheel—if it come not too soon—may be expected to bring with it greater good fortune, and the Radicals, at least, are not altogether unaccustomed to wait and work.

THE CONSERVATIVE INNINGS.

WHEN the last wicket of the one side is down, and the opposing eleven are about to take their turn at the stumps, the spectators in the cricket-field feel the tension of excitement for a few moments relaxed, and betake themselves to the agreeable amusement of gossiping speculation on the next stage of the game. Not so the heroes more immediately concerned. The captain of the incoming eleven has to determine with hasty anxiety the order in which he will send his men to the wickets; and the other side, remembering the special fame or peculiar knack of each new batsman, must determine on the points of the field most likely to be threatened and the disposition of their men by which those points may be most effectually guarded. Such is very much the condition of things at the present moment in the English political world. The conflict of the "ins" and "outs" bears always too close an analogy to a great game; and never more so than when, in the absence of any distinct issue of principle, the question to be decided by the constituencies is simply the greater or less popularity of this or the other leader. In the effort to "dish the Radicals" Mr. Gladstone has dissipated his own majority. His last wicket is down now; and while the Conservatives are all fluttering and smiling in the prospect of their long looked-for innings, their astute captain is doubtless already busily arranging the order of his men, and taking eager counsel with those whose skill or prestige entitle them to advise. On the other hand, Mr. Gladstone may be supposed to be forecasting the skilful "cuts" and dangerous "drives" of which his light-handed opponents are known to be capable, while he contemplates with grim exultation the chances of a sudden "catch" that are sure to be given by light-hearted blunderers unaccustomed to power.

But here our analogy goes the way of all analogies, and hopelessly breaks down. It is said, indeed, that onlookers have the best of the game. But however great may be their stake in it they are not allowed to interfere. On the other hand, in this great game of politics, it is not the "ins" and "outs" only that take their part; but the whole nation has a duty to discharge. And it is therefore now a matter of the utmost importance for all Liberals who have the interest of their country at heart, to forecast the probable duration of the Conservative Government, to decide on what dangerous points of possible policy it may be necessary to offer a determined opposition; and to consider what course of reformation is best calculated to reunite and reinvigorate the collapsed party of progress. As to the first point we confess that we do not indulge in any sanguine hopes. The disintegration and the general apathy which have paralysed Liberal action, are symptomatic of a prevalent weariness of "heroic legislation." And this is a condition of the public mind which, in the absence of any now unforeseen causes of excitement, may fairly be expected to continue some little time. The new Parliament will be the first in the ordinary lifetime of a generation that has afforded the Conservatives a practicable working majority. Hungry for place as they must be after these long years, we may safely trust their instinct of self-preservation to keep them for a while at least from any boldly reactionary policy, such as would be likely to reunite the scattered forces of the Opposition. Or if the erratic genius of the author of the Bath letter should threaten some brilliant eccentricity, the almost preternatural good sense of Lord Derby will, in all probability, like the great, solid, and monotonous fly-wheel, keep the machine, so long as the steam lasts, in equable motion. On the other hand, it must be some time before the issue of occasional elections is likely to show any change in popular feeling; and still longer before such elections can produce much effect upon the balance of parties in the House. It must also be remembered that Mr. Gladstone's precipitancy has brought his rival into power with a brand new Parlia-

ment, over which the latter will be entitled to hold the threat of speedy dissolution. Nor after the startling experience of the present time can we affect to think that a Parliament, elected after any brief interval under Tory auspices, would be any less Conservative than that which is about to assemble. On these grounds, provided always that no unforeseen breeze stirs the lethargic waters of slumbrous public opinion, we may safely predict that the new Ministry will, if they know how to use their advantages, be able to keep afloat during at any rate a moderate period of office.

The same considerations may fairly relieve our apprehensions of any great danger to the achieved results of Liberal policy in the past. The Irish Church is happily past praying for. Irish tenants may be fearless of any "harassing" legislation against their recently-secured rights. Trinity College cannot well become again the castle of Protestant supremacy. It is fortunately almost impossible that the Education Act can be worked more favourably for the priesthood than it has been for the now expiring ministry. On that point, at least, Mr. Forster has effectually relieved us from any dread of a Tory advent to power. It is very unlikely that any express amendments in a reactionary sense will be proposed; but if that should be the case, we trust we shall know how to meet them. All Liberals feel some natural and reasonable bitterness at the thought that the enormous surplus resulting from a wise financial policy should be manipulated by the over nimble fingers of those who have had nothing to do with earning it. The once famous question, "What will he do with it?" will again be on every one's lips as the budget night approaches. And Mr. Ward Hunt, or whoever is to be Chancellor of the Exchequer, will have the felicity of unfolding his proposals before a critic, who not only has a keener insight into finance than any other man in the world, but who is in the exceptionally favourable position of knowing precisely where every penny comes from, and where it ought to go to, far better than any newly installed minister.

"Palliat, ut nudis pressit qui calcibus anguem,
Aut Lugdunensem rhetor dicturus ad aram!"

Mr. Disraeli having first told us that any Ministry would be as ready to repeal the income-tax as the one lately in power, and then having told us that he for his part certainly would not, we suppose we must take his second thought, if not as best, at any rate as most seriously intended. But he will hardly dare to absorb the surplus in expenditure. And as something must be done with it, he will probably fritter it away in a weak dilution of Mr. Gladstone's proposals. As to the other questions no doubt as little will be done as possible. And we confess our chief fear is that the more even balance of parties in the new Parliament will give to the Irish Home Rulers and the Papal brigade an importance which would suggest a close watch on their relations to the coming Government.

One word as to the shattered Liberal party. We, for our part, will never propose to reunite it by any unworthy compromise of principle. We have had enough of such attempts. We have yielded, perhaps, more than we ought to have yielded, with a view of keeping the party together. But now that it has gone "foundering and floundering" into opposition, we trust that no attempt will be made to reunite it except on a firm basis of consistent principle. We can hardly be charged with fanaticism. We have never sought to press our own special points at the expense of the national welfare. We are not disposed to change our ground now. We hope Mr. Disraeli will live to prove that Disestablishment was clearly involved in Conservative principles, but we have no desire that he should remain in office until that measure is ripe for enactment. We do, however, maintain that for the future it is utterly impossible to lift the Liberal party out of the dust of humiliation unless the right of Nonconformists to the national burial-grounds, together with the disendowment of religion in all national schools, and the amendment of the Endowed Schools Act are a part of the bond. A really progressive party does not abate but rather raises its demands after every temporary defeat.

THE LATEST PHASE OF THE BENGAL CALAMITY.

THE Government of India has at length awoke to a sharp sense of the urgency of the crisis in Bengal. The great meeting which has been held at Calcutta to promote the flow of private benevolence and to encourage individual effort, was presided over by the Viceroy himself, who vividly portrayed the dangers which are about to tax all the energies and resources both of the

State and of private individuals. No wonder the facts presented to the meeting created "a profound sensation." Down to the last moment the optimistic views of the official class prevented the people of India from adequately realising the magnitude of the disaster which is now so nearly at hand. The Government were apparently so confident that moderate measures of relief would enable them to grapple with the difficulty that the feeling of anxiety which was at one time general gradually disappeared. Precisely the same effect was produced in this country. For three months past every note of warning sounded in the press has been met with official assurances which necessarily arrested what would have proved a bountiful stream of public charity, and to that extent has compelled India to bear the full weight of the pecuniary burthen which the famine will entail upon her. Beyond the solitary subscription which the Queen, with a woman's felicitous instinct, has already sent to the Viceroy, nothing whatever has been done in the way of organising relief. Who is to blame for this? is a question to which whether Liberals or Tories are in power, an answer must shortly be given.

For, observe, matters are turning out exactly as was predicted months ago. The future was accurately forecast. The Indian Government were implored then not to depend upon rain, which might not fall until it was too late to save the crops or prevent the famine. They were entreated to take the largest view of the obligations which devolved upon them, and to provide for the worst which could possibly happen. Instead of acting upon this advice they persisted in looking at things in a cheerful light. We will not venture to say that they were wrong in declining to prohibit the export of grain, or in arriving at the conclusion that the food supply of India was sufficient for any emergency which might arise; but they committed a vital error in overlooking the fact that, if aggravated distress prevailed, all the food in the world would, without adequate means of transport, only make the Bengal peasant experience the tortures of Tantalus. This was the point to which the best informed writers addressed themselves at the outset of the discussion. Sir Arthur Cotton especially called upon the Government at once to lay an embargo upon every vessel that plies on the Ganges, and to employ them night and day in conveying rice to the famine districts. If his counsel had been taken, is it probable that the present outlook would have been what the latest intelligence portends? Sir Richard Temple's report shows that in the northern districts of Bengal millions of human beings will for months to come depend solely upon charity for the means of subsistence. This is bad enough, but worse remains behind. The famine has prematurely begun its course. In Patna, the great rice granary of India, every market is now closed. "Numbers of the people," Sir R. Temple writes, "are limiting themselves to one meal a day," and unless outside help is forthcoming on a large scale, "many tracts on the northern border of Patna will be almost depopulated." Since his report was written, other populous districts have been drawn into the ever widening vortex; and the prospects of the people, whom he describes as "anxious, but wonderfully patient," have become simply appalling. Multitudes are already crowding to the relief works which have been established by Sir George Campbell, and other multitudes will soon find their way there. It was thought that the stress would not come before April, but now we learn that famine is marching with faster strides than was anticipated, and that in many places the stock of food will be wholly exhausted in five or six weeks from hence. Indeed, several deaths from starvation are already reported, and hundreds of women are flocking to the relief works.

We are aware that the Government of India are now putting forth prodigious efforts to make up for lost time; and it would be unjust to withhold from them the credit which is due to their latent display of energy. But if—as appears only too probable—it should turn out that these exertions ought to have been made two or three months ago, a grievous responsibility will rest upon both those who counselled and those who sanctioned the fatal delay. Some light is thrown upon this part of the subject in the despatch which the Duke of Argyll addressed to the Governor-General on Jan. 23rd. The Secretary of State has no suggestions of his own to offer; but he fills up a lengthy State paper with an endorsement of Lord Northbrook's measures, which sounds like a prolonged echo of approval and satisfaction. The Duke could not more deliberately have divided with the Viceroy the responsibility of the policy which has been pursued. There is one fallacy in the despatch to which it is necessary to call

attention. The Duke, in contrasting the famine in Orissa with the present scarcity, speaks of the places now affected as "among the most accessible districts of British India"; whereas Sir R. Temple states that there are tracts which are practically inaccessible to carriage, and that in these the greatest danger exists. But whether the worst districts be accessible or not, the chief question is whether in the brief interval which now separates the people from absolute starvation there is time to get the food conveyed to them. In other words, are the means of transport sufficient? Upon that all important matter the Duke of Argyll is ominously silent; but yet from the beginning this has been the point mainly pressed upon the attention of the Government. Yesterday Mr. Disraeli emphatically condemned the labour test, but the expediency of applying this test is really contingent upon the ability of the Government to convey sufficient quantities of food both to the relief works and to the villages. We may of course be giving expression to unfounded apprehensions; and if the issue should show that the Indian Government have made adequate provision for the calamity which is now so imminent, we shall gladly acknowledge our error, and do the rulers of India the justice to admit that they have exhibited the prevision and sagacity of statesmen. Nevertheless we shall always contend that it was a grievous mistake to discourage the benevolent action of the British people, who all along have been anxious to give substantial expression to the feeling of sympathy which the famine has called forth in every part of the empire.

ELECTION NOTES.

A weekly newspaper cannot pretend to take note of more than a few of the prominent features of an exciting general election. But we may notice some of the special characteristics of last week's contests, which it should be remembered tested the ballot for the first time on a large scale.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the metropolitan constituencies gave their verdict, and it was unexpectedly adverse to the Government. That of Greenwich was, as we stated last week, the first known, and the electors of that borough—the publicans being specially prominent—gave the first place to Boord, the gin-distiller, known to the world only as the colleague of the Prime Minister, and the second to Gladstone, the great Liberal statesman, who however polled some 400 votes fewer than 1868. On Wednesday the fate of Hackney and Marylebone was decided, though only temporarily in the former case. That election was a *fiasco*, in consequence of some of the polling-booths not being open till late in the day. The old members were formally re-elected; and no doubt would have been re-elected if all had been in order, and some thousands of unpolled votes had been given. It will be rather hard upon Messrs. Reed and Holms that their return should be questioned, and probably set aside, in consequence of gross official negligence. But the hon. members appear destined to "fight their battles o'er again," with perhaps a more formidable antagonist than Captain Gill, viz., Sir John Pakington, whom Droitwich has cast out after some forty years of service to that constituency. The unwieldy borough of Marylebone, in which Toryism has for many years past vainly tried to get a footing, yielded at last to the active efforts of the licensed victuallers, who carried in their favourite, Mr. Forsyth, Q.C.—an able Conservative lawyer, rejected some months ago at Bath—at the top of the poll, by some 600 votes over Sir Thomas Chambers. By the arbitration of the Attorney-General, Mr. Thomas Hughes had retired, but whether the friends of "Tom Brown" generally transferred their votes to Mr. Daniel Grant, his rival, is open to doubt. At all events the second Liberal was nearly 2,000 votes under Mr. Forsyth.

Thursday was the great day for the metropolis, but though the polling was going on in seven constituencies, there was little excitement anywhere in London, and the results were not known till the succeeding afternoon. In the City the fears of the Liberals were fully justified. The three Tory candidates headed the poll, Mr. Goschen coming in as the "minority" fourth, and Baron Rothschild and Alderman Lawrence losing their seats. At Chelsea Mr. Kiell, a nondescript Liberal, came forward apparently to oust Sir Charles Dilke, but that hon. baronet headed the poll, and by favour of Mr. Kiell (who polled only about one-third the votes given to Sir Henry Hoare, the late Liberal member) Sir Charles received as a colleague a Conservative. There are said to have been serious irregularities in this election, such as the late opening of a polling-booth,

and Mr. Gordon may have to defend his seat before a judicial tribunal. In Finsbury, also, the Conservatives resolved to test this Radical constituency, and an unknown officer of the Guards, Colonel Randolph, was put forward, and received as many as 7,737 votes—only about 2,000 less than the Lord Mayor. No doubt many of the Conservatives split their votes with Mr. Torrens, in consideration of his opposition to disestablishment; and he came in at the head, while Mr. Lucraft, the working men's candidate, lacking organisation, was far behind. In Lambeth the contest was close and exciting. The Tories, with Mr. Morgan Howard, expected to succeed this time. But their energy was thrown away. That indefatigable gentleman, though actively assisted by the clergy and the publicans, was about 600 votes behind, and left the old members, Sir J. C. Lawrence and Mr. W. M'Arthur, in possession of the field. The issue of the Southwark election was a foregone conclusion, with three Liberals and one Tory in the field. Mr. Odger's friends would listen to no arrangement, and he with Mr. Dunn was rejected. The last-named gentleman has, it will be seen, announced his intention to persevere; which he may hopefully do at a future election, if Mr. Odger's friends can be convinced of the hopelessness of his candidature. Meanwhile Southwark, though Liberal at heart, is again neutralised in the House of Commons. Four contending Liberals were in the field for the Tower Hamlets, and the one Conservative candidate came in at the head with 2,200 votes to spare. This great eastern constituency is in the same position as Southwark. Mr. Currie took nothing by his candidature, and Mr. Ayrton, who stood last but one on the poll, has lost his seat and his official position. Westminster was a clear case of Conservative reaction and good organisation. Mr. W. H. Smith went in at the top with a majority of 4,622 over Sir T. F. Buxton, and easily carried in with him Sir Charles Russell also. The abstentions in Westminster on the Liberal side must have been very great, and there can be little doubt that if Mr. Beal had not withdrawn, he would have polled more than either of the two baronets on the same side.

The metropolitan elections were a peculiarly heavy blow to Mr. Gladstone's Government. These constituencies are now represented by twelve Liberals and ten Conservatives. In the Parliament just dissolved the Conservatives had three metropolitan members, the Liberals nineteen. There has thus been a transfer of seven seats from the Liberal to the Conservative side. It has been computed that a majority—estimated at more than 50,000—of the metropolitan electors have given their votes for Liberal candidates, but the estimate is based on a fallacy. There may have been a clear majority of 5,000, but the calculation referred to counts many of the votes twice over.

Both Wednesday and Thursday were bad days for the Liberal cause in the provincial constituencies, and it is hardly necessary to separate them. In three cases, recent isolated elections proved to be an unstable guide. In Stroud, where the Tory triumph was said to have been one of the proximate causes of the precipitate general election, Mr. Dorington, without having taken his seat, was rejected, and the two local Liberals were returned there by narrow majorities. In the case of Hull the recently successful Tory, Colonel Pease, was last on the poll and two Liberals came in. In Newcastle Mr. Cowen was again far ahead of his competitors, but Mr. Hamond displaced Mr. Headlam, the old Whig member, for reasons explained elsewhere. The two seats for Nottingham were lost by the hopeless divisions of the Liberals—four of whom went to the poll and gave their opponents an easy triumph. In another town, Oldham, where as at Nottingham, the Liberals had signally triumphed in the school board election, they were beaten in a close contest, and two good men, Mr. Hibbert, the Secretary of the Local Government Board, and the Hon. Lyulph Stanley, an able Liberal of the advanced school, were lost to Parliament. In other parts of Lancashire the tide was in favour of the Opposition. In Liverpool the two Conservatives gained an easy victory with some 3,000 majority, but Mr. Rathbone came in as the minority member; his colleague, Mr. Caine, being somewhat behind. Manchester showed that Conservatism is still its fashionable creed—the two Conservatives being safe, Sir T. Bazley taking the minority seat, and Mr. Jacob Bright, who made so distinct a mark upon the late Parliament, being rejected. The attempts to wrest Ashton, Staley bridge, and Salford from the Conservatives was unavailing. But in Salford the contest was very close. Both Mr. Kay and Mr. Henry Lee were lost

than 200 votes below their opponents. But at Blackburn, Stockport, and Bolton, the Liberals managed to recover a seat. In Yorkshire the vicissitudes of the battle were remarkable. Mr. Forster, as was expected, was returned by Tory help, his majority being more than 3,000. Mr. Ripley, also, by the same aid, secured the second seat—their opponents, Messrs. Godwin and Hardaker, being far behind. The issue of the Leeds election could hardly be doubtful after the persistence of Dr. Lees, who simply wasted some 6,000 Liberal votes, and insured the rejection of Mr. Baines, who is a staunch friend of the temperance movement. Whether this *fiasco* comes of Roman Catholic or Permissive Bill antagonism, the result is the same. Mr. Carter safely headed the poll, and his plumpers, if distributed, would have carried in his colleague. At Sheffield Mr. Chamberlain failed, Mr. Mundella being re-elected, and Mr. Roebuck heading the poll. It is probable that but for Liberal abstention, the Mayor of Birmingham would have gone in. Mr. Roebuck is classed as a Liberal, but will he sit on the same side as the members whose policy he scornfully repudiates? At Scarborough the effort to carry Professor Rogers, who would have been an acquisition to Parliament, resulted in a Tory gain. Mr. E. A. Leatham gained an easy triumph at Huddersfield, but Wakefield went over to Mr. Disraeli.

In the midland districts there were some vicissitudes. Though Derby and Leicester by good majorities held fast to their Liberal traditions, Northampton retained Mr. Gilpin, but chose a Tory in preference to Lord Henley; owing, we should imagine, to Nonconformist abstinence. Stoke surrendered one seat to the Conservatives after a close contest; Stafford gave its second seat to Mr. Macdonald, who with Mr. Burt, another miners' advocate, are the sole working men's representatives in the new Parliament; and the Coventry Liberals wrested one seat from their opponents, while Kidderminster restored Mr. Albert Grant to favour. Turning eastward, there was a peculiarly severe contest at Norwich, where Mr. Tillett lost the second seat by 47 votes by what seems to have been ignoble treachery. The hon. gentleman stood very reluctantly after great pressing, and only to serve his party. His candidature excited unbounded enthusiasm. The rest may be told by the *Norfolk News* :—

It is well known that Mr. Tillett's friends would, at the slightest intimation of such a wish, have plumped for him almost to a man. No one doubts that the up-lifting of a finger would have brought two thousand plumpers for that gentleman. His followers had to be entreated and restrained by speeches and through the press, and so forcible and effective were these appeals that only forty-four voted for Mr. Tillett and withheld their votes from Mr. Colman. Thus, if the analysis referred to above be studied, it will be seen that Mr. Tillett defeated himself! Why? To serve the cause; to secure the seat for his colleague! Why do we enlarge upon this matter? Not so much to extol Mr. Tillett as to hold up to the execration of all honest and honourable men the efforts that have been made to alienate a portion of the party from the man who has thus sacrificed himself to save the cause.

The net result was that 126 electors who might have split their votes with Mr. Tillett plumped for Mr. Colman, and thus, as it happened, defeated the popular Radical leader. Ipswich also by a small majority has rejected its late members, one of whom was Mr. Adair, a very experienced chairman of railway committees in the House. To him they prefer Mr. Bulwer, Q.C. Indeed there is quite an irruption of Tory lawyers into Parliament—for is not that the straightest road to professional advancement?

If we go further south there are no signs visible of a revival of the Liberal cause. Any persons who may have doubted the permanent Radicalism of a pleasure-taking place like Brighton, or have suspected that it was being smothered by the usual watering-place "know-nothingism" characteristic of such places, tinged with pronounced Ritualism, will have been less surprised than shocked that a yachtman and a general were preferred to so old a representative as Mr. White, and so thoughtful a statesman as Mr. Fawcett. Dover, a somewhat kindred place, has been long oscillating between the two parties—and we dare say in both cases the beer interest turned the scale in favour of the Tories. Our Exeter correspondent explains the loss of Plymouth and Devonport, and the ejection of two tried Liberals. Portsmouth took the same line, having given Sir J. Elphinstone a Tory colleague, but the Southampton Liberals have recovered one seat. Relative to the contest for Tavistock, a correspondent sends us the following information :—

The Nonconformists of Tavistock have almost wrested a seat from the powerful grasp of the great ducal house of Bedford, and would have completed the

victory had it not been for the adverse vote of the Conservatives. Their late member, Lord Arthur Russell, was not considered "sound" on the two important questions of disestablishment and the repeal of the 25th clause of the Education Act, and therefore the Dissenters ran a candidate of their own, viz., Mr. Russell Biggs, of Liverpool. The contest was short and sharp; the odds overwhelming; Mr. Biggs had only a week's introduction to the borough, while Lord Arthur Russell had occupied the ground for fifteen years; his organisation was complete; his brother is Duke of Bedford, whose influence at Tavistock is potent, if not omnipotent; and yet he polled a minority of Liberal votes, and must have been rejected had not the Tory party come to his rescue at the last moment, and thus saved his lordship. The figures stood thus—Voted for Lord A. Russell, 362; for Mr. Biggs, 273; majority, 89; but there were 94 Tories who voted, and if they had abstained from voting, Mr. Biggs would have been in a majority of 5. A marked feature of the contest was, that both sides by consent abstained from canvassing.

The principal features of the conflict in the West of England are adverted to by our Exeter correspondent. In Frome, Mr. W. H. Willans tried to secure the seat vacated by Mr. Hughes; but the publicans were too much for him.

The Nonconformists of Wales have not altogether maintained their ground. The Tory reaction has reached the Principality, though the wave has not been a strong one. As a matter of course, Mr. Richard came in at the top of the poll for Merthyr, but Mr. Halliday, the miners' representative, failed to displace Mr. Fothergill. Mr. Osborne Morgan was not opposed; Mr. Watkin Williams was, but he carried the day. The Conservatives have, however, been successful in the Monmouth boroughs and Carmarthen boroughs. The last is a great surprise. The son of the late member, Sir John Stepney, was the Liberal candidate, but did not meet with such acceptance as his father. For the rest, the representation of the Principality is not much altered. In some cases, however, better men are returned, as for the Flint boroughs. Mr. Eytton, who succeeds Sir R. Cunliffe, a non-supporter of Mr. Miall's motions, says in his address :—"I am for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England, believing as I do that no one form of religion is entitled to ascendancy. *The Church of Christ rests on no foundation of Establishments.*"

Upon the county contests, which have not mended the Liberal cause, and the Scotch and Irish elections, many of which have yet to come off, we have no room for extended remark this week.

Epitome of News.

The Queen will, according to the most recent arrangements, leave Osborne for Windsor about the 17th inst.

It is officially announced that the Queen will hold drawing rooms at Buckingham Palace on Thursday, the 26th of February, and on Wednesday, the 25th of March next, at three o'clock.

The Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise are expected shortly at Dornden, near Tunbridge Wells, the marquis having purchased that estate from Mr. Field.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh will take leave of the Russian Imperial family, and start from St. Petersburg on the 27th inst. Their royal highnesses, will, it is expected, make a short stay at Berlin, and will arrive at Windsor Castle, on their visit to Her Majesty, on the 5th of March.

Anticipating a change of Ministry, speculation is rife in Dublin as to the new Irish Executive. The Duke of Abercorn to be lord-lieutenant, Dr. Ball to be lord-chancellor, Sir Seymour Fitzgerald or Colonel Wilson-Patten (if not made Speaker) to be Irish Secretary, and Mr. D. Plunket to be attorney-general, are the names already in men's mouths.

The Right Hon. W. E. Forster has been visiting Her Majesty at Osborne, and left yesterday.

The *Daily News* hears that the honour of a baronetcy is to be offered to Mr. Edward Baines, lately M.P. for Leeds.

Baron Meyer de Rothschild, as well known as a supporter of the turf as in mercantile circles, from being an active member of the firm of Rothschild and Sons, died on Friday. The late Baron Meyer was the youngest of the four sons of Nathan Meyer Rothschild, the founder of the English branch of that wealthy family. The late baron represented Hythe in the House of Commons in the last and several preceding Parliaments.

A brisk and terse correspondence has taken place between the Duke of Argyll and Mr. Disraeli, touching the passage in the Aylesbury speech wherein the right hon. gentleman expressed his belief that the Liberal party had advised Her Majesty to recall Lord Mayo from his post. No such advice, the duke declares, was given to the Crown, nor was it contemplated by the Government.

Mr. Anderson, the conjuror, better known as the "Wizard of the North," died last week at Darlington, in the sixtieth year of his age.

Mr. Samuel Stone, for thirty-five years town clerk of Leicester and clerk to the Leicester magistrates, and, since his retirement in 1872, a local

magistrate, died on Thursday at the age of seventy. He was well-known in legal circles as the author of a yearly revised edition of *Stone's Justices' Manual*, and other books on magisterial and municipal law, &c., which are regarded as authorities on legal matters.

The Hon. Roden Noel suggests a Westminster Abbey monument to Dr. Livingstone.

The accident on the Great Western Railway on Friday afternoon, near the West Drayton station, has happily turned out to be less serious than might have been supposed considering all the circumstances. The only life lost is that of the guard of the Exeter express. The Marchioness of Anglesey, who was one of the passengers in the up-train, was violently shaken, but has not sustained any permanent injury.

A collision occurred on Saturday afternoon on the Woolwich branch of the Great Eastern Railway, a passenger train from Fenchurch-street to Woolwich coming in contact, as it was approaching Stratford-bridge station, with the engine of a goods train. Several persons were injured, the two engines wrecked, and some goods wagons destroyed.

The Dublin Corporation resolved unanimously on Saturday, to memorialise the Government for the appropriation of the Irish Church surplus fund to the widening of Carlisle Bridge; the construction of a new street leading to Christ Church Cathedral; the drainage of such parts of the country as may require drainage; the reclamation of waste lands, and other purposes; the adornment and improvement of the city; and the advancement of the material prosperity of the country generally.

The old gravel-pits and belts of furze on the west side of Tooting Common are being cleared away, and the land is to be excavated and laid out as a public and recreation-ground for the inhabitants of Tooting and Streatham. The work is undertaken by the Board of Works.

Mr. Herman Merivale, C.B., permanent under-secretary at the India Office, died on Sunday morning, after a brief illness, in his sixty-ninth year. His work on colonisation led to his appointment by Lord Grey as under-secretary for the colonies in 1847. In 1858, at the earnest request of Sir C. Wood, he was appointed permanent under-secretary at the India Office, where his remaining official years were spent.

Lord Chief Justice Cockburn is still proceeding with his summing up of the Tichborne case. It is remarked that he "is constructing an entirely new narrative, and guiding the jury to deductions on many points not heretofore noticed."

Rumours are current in Dublin that, previous to the resignation of the Ministry, Baron Dease will be promoted to the vacant Judgeship in the Court of Exchequer, and Mr. Heron, Q.C., to the vacancy in the Landed Estates Court.

The *Civil Service Review* says, the abolition of the income-tax—should that measure be accomplished—will cause a considerable reduction in the number of employees in the Inland Revenue, involving a rearrangement of most of the offices.

The death is announced of Mr. Sampson Copestake, the head of the firm of Copestake, Moore, and Co., of Bow-churchyard, London, in his 74th year.

Boring has been commenced to ascertain the practicability of a tunnel under the Solent, so as to effect a railway communication with the Isle of Wight. The borers are at work at Stone's Point, near the mouth of the Beaulieu river, on the Hampshire coast, opposite West Cowes.

A Life of Christ, by the Rev. F. W. Farrar, D.D., F.R.S., Master of Marlborough College, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, is now in preparation, and will be shortly published in two volumes by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin. Each volume will contain an illustration from an original sketch made expressly for the work by Mr. Holman Hunt.

THE LATE REV J. H. HINTON.—We understand that the family of the late Rev. John Howard Hinton, M.A., have in consideration the preparation of a biography of their father. They earnestly request that all persons who can contribute materials of any kind for the purposes of such a memoir, will be kind enough to place them at the disposal of the family. All letters, documents, newspaper cuttings, &c., will be returned if desired. As the author will be the best judge of what is likely to be useful in the preparation of the book, all who have any authentic information, of whatever nature, respecting the life and work of Mr. Hinton, are asked to be kind enough to place themselves as early as possible in communication with some of Mr. Hinton's family. The Rev. Elvery Dothie, B.A., Princess-road, South Norwood, S.E., will receive and acknowledge all documents, on behalf of the family.

MR. GLADSTONE AS LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—The circumstances will be so different from those under which he was leader of the Opposition in Mr. Disraeli's last Ministry that the character will be a new one. It will be very hard for him to give the new Ministry that fair trial which the country will wish it to have. He will burn to confound his enemies with his superior knowledge and vehemence. He will have almost to strap himself down to his seat if he is to make any approach to the dignified and contemptuous tranquillity of Mr. Disraeli; and there will be many moments when, thinking of what he could say so well to a mob, and what he feels it unwise to say to the House of Commons, he will long for one hour of the old broken wagon of Blackheath.

Literature.

FREE THINKING AND PLAIN
SPEAKING.*

Perhaps the highest testimony yet rendered to Christianity is the great reluctance, shown by those who attack the ordinary conception of it, to let go all hold upon it as embodying the highest expression of the moral and spiritual consciousness of humanity. It is true, Strauss has gone beyond the line; but in passing over it, he perforce admits a sad sense of the unreality of spiritual aspiration altogether. He abandons himself to a dark despair, supportable only by force of the philosophic mind; and openly foregoes appeal to the mass, who are doomed to lean upon their "instincts." His "we," he tells us, are the philosophic few—a chosen coterie; and by the very announcement, does he not half confute all his own reasonings—since in religion the heart and phantasy have some concern also? Literature with him is to be henceforth a liturgy; poets and artists are to be the high priests of humanity; and operative music, the great choral anthem; but all this implies such culture to enjoy it, that necessarily the bulk of the race are left unprovided for. Strauss, as a philosopher may be consistent, for logic in itself may be faithfully employed for error as for truth; but, as a man, he is flagrantly self-contradictory, in that he deals destructively with a transcendent interest that concerns all men alike, whether thinkers or no, and yet acknowledges his want of power to supply them with anything instead of that which he strives to take away.

More human, and at the same time more philosophic, is the tendency of our greater sceptical minds generally. How concerned is Renan to raise the ideal of Christ, from his own point of view, even while he would demonstrate inadequacy and contradiction in the records; Mr. Matthew Arnold (who ere while so primly lectured Bishop Colenso on the ground of esoteric and exoteric teaching!) now exactly follows the bishop, whom he had condemned, and after much destructive criticism, reclaims the idea of "righteousness," and "sweet reasonableness," leading us up to a new idea—his idea—of a "secret" and a "method"; and Mr. W. B. Greg—in this more consistent with himself than some others—directs us eloquently to that pure and beautiful presentment of the spiritual we have in Jesus, which the highest and noblest in man must ever joyfully embrace and reverence the moment that it is clearly presented to it. The "most honest and best directed attacks" are, therefore, as their writers sincerely conceive, attempts to disentangle Christianity from formal and dogmatic assertions, and to present the pure spiritual ideal of it to the minds of men. In this there is surely something richly significant that, after all which criticism has done, the best informed though sceptical minds do still regard Christianity as the highest revelation of the spiritual in man's nature.

In some contrast to Mr. Greg, however, stands Mr. Leslie Stephen, whose "free-thinking and plain speaking" is destructive and destructive alone. There can be no doubt that so far as he concerns himself with practical abuses, Mr. Stephen is not only right, but wields a most efficient pen. He gives no quarter to half-and-half deliverances, to trifling with formulas, and the getting rid of troublesome dogmas and phrases by their reception in non-natural senses. His first essay on the Broad Church we regard as trenchant; but hardly more so than the facts justify. This, for instance, we regard as a faithful statement of the real tendency of the kind of playing with conscience which has been introduced mainly by the Broad-Church party:—

"It is this constantly-recurring difficulty which is destroying the influence of the Broad-Church party. They protest, and I doubt not with perfect sincerity, that they throw aside all considerations except the simple desire of discovering the truth. And yet their investigations always end in opinions which are at least capable of expression in the words of the most antiquated formulas. It is as if a man should say that he always steered due north, and yet his course should invariably take him safely through all the shoals and tortuosities of the Thames, and land him conveniently at Lambeth Stairs. I should think that there must be something very odd about his compasses. We talk of the dishonesty of the men who side up to the Roman Catholic Church in spite of every obstacle raised by Rubrics and Privy Council decisions. The true difference

between them and the Broad Church seems to be that one set of thinkers base their whole system on some single but gigantic fiction, whilst the others prefer to mix truth and fiction in each article separately. Of conscious dishonesty, which means lying in others, there is probably little enough in either case; but towards lying to oneself, which is a bad thing in its way, there is abundant temptation in both cases.

"According to this plan [the Voysey treatment of the articles], we should still talk about witches, but explain that witchcraft was merely a roundabout term for a special variety of disease, and that talk about the devil was necessarily a metaphorical use of language. Which course of conduct would be most likely to put down the superstition, and to convince those who believed in it of the sincerity of its opponents? But for the supposed necessity of leaving the clergy with some liberal spirit, there can be no doubt that men like Mr. Voysey would repudiate the whole doctrine of the Atonement, and be at least as willing to sign the contradictory of the article as the words to which they now subscribe."

Mr. Voysey is simply the *enfant terrible* of the Broad Church party. He has cruelly stripped their doctrines of the convenient haze in which they were enveloped; and set down in plain black and white the line of defence which is tacitly assumed in their ordinary justifications. Nothing, of course, is more unpleasant than to see our own opinions expressed in these harsh, crude, tangible shapes, and made so distinct that they cannot be recognised. The services rendered to the cause of free-thinking by the Broad Church party are undeniable; but the services rendered are beginning to be eclipsed by the disservice in proportion as the effort with which they obey two masters becomes palpable and recognised. The care with which the blinkers have to be adjusted is so great that one can hardly believe the operation to be performed by blind instinct."

Mr. Leslie Stephen is straightforward in his desire to "fight in the daylight," and does not seek to retreat from the last results of his own logic. In the article, "Are we Christians?" which caused so much stir at the time of its publication in the *Fortnightly Review*, he contents himself with raising difficulties and suggesting inconsistencies without definitively answering the question, though it is not hard to see how he would regard himself as justified in answering it. But the truth is, Mr. Leslie Stephen passes beyond his proper bounds when he concerns himself with any topic, which for its fall and faithful discussion demands exercise of the constructive faculty. Mr. Stephen has no imagination, no phantasy, no true sympathy, no reverence, and is on that account—notwithstanding his sharp, clear logic, which so neatly and with such a smart accompaniment of a whiff of scorn, can push an opponent over into absurdity—not entitled to deal with the transcendental side of his subject, if we may name it so. And our protection against his influence (so far as it is calculated to be malign or to tend that way) simply lies in the fact that it must be by its nature limited to the few who are as "enlightened," or nearly as "enlightened," as himself.

But we believe that on certain practical points—notably on the effect of the prevailing loose notions of subscription in the Church of England—he speaks words which must go home:—

"The one duty," he says, "which at the present moment seems to me to be of paramount importance, is the duty of perfect intellectual sincerity. We are specially bound not only to avoid deceiving others, but to avoid deceiving ourselves. I believe that one of the greatest dangers of the present day is the general atmosphere of insincerity in such matters, which is fast producing a scepticism, not as to any or all theologies, but as to the very existence of intellectual good-faith. Destroy credit, and you ruin commerce; destroy all faith in religious honesty, and you ruin something of infinitely more importance than commerce; ideas should surely be preserved as carefully as cotton from the poisonous influence of a varnish intended to fit them for public consumption."

In the last chapter of the work—heretofore unpublished—Mr. Stephen reviews the whole ground, bringing into prominence the inconsistency of many of the old theological constructions, and this in a masterly manner; but we confess the effect on us is depressing—painful, when the only positive and reconstructive passage we can light on in the book is this:—

"The whole lesson of our lives is summed up in teaching us to say 'never' without needless flinching, or, in other words, in submitting to the inevitable. The theologian bids us repent, and waste our lives in vain regrets for the past, and in tremulous hopes that the past may yet be future. Science tells us—what, indeed, we scarcely need to learn from science—that what is gone, is gone, and that the best wisdom of life is the acceptance of accomplished facts. Never repent, unless by repentance you mean drawing lessons from past experience. Beating against the bars of fate you will only wound yourself, and mar what yet remains to you. Grief for the past is useful so far as it can be transmuted into renewed force for the future. The love of those we have lost may enable us to love better those who remain, and those who are to come. So used, it is an infinitely precious possession, and to be cherished with all our hearts. As it leads to vain regrets, it is at best an enervating enjoyment, and a needless pain. The figments of theology are a consecration of our delusive dreams; the teaching of the new faith should be the utilization of every emotion to the bettering of the world of the future."

Truly, a grim kind of Utilitarianism this! Christianity has been a failure; a retrograde

movement, and progress will begin again when we have graduated back to a lower form of Marcus-Aurelian Stoicism! Happy nineteenth century, with "enlightened" teachers like Mr. Stephen, who see everything so clearly, and can at the same time even prophesy!

From Mr. Stephens we turn to Mr. Greg as with a sense of relief and exhilaration, for he has some heart and hope. Our readers will remember that the "Creed of Christendom" was published nearly five-and-twenty years ago, and that it was a discussion of the inconsistencies that met the careful student of the Bible. Much that has since been elaborated and developed in more pretentious books, might be held to have suggestion here, for even Bishop Colenso has followed frequently in the wake of Mr. Greg. But what is special to Mr. Greg—notwithstanding his keen analytical mind that will not allow him to tolerate an inconsistency—is a supremely reverent and sympathetic temper, which rendered it necessary for him, while dealing severe blows at the inspiration of the Old Testament, to reserve, even in respect to it, a substratum of spiritual truth anticipative of Christianity itself. He is not in favour of the word revelation at all, and yet he makes admissions which bring the difference on this point between him and some thoughtful orthodox writers to be merely verbal matters:—

"We do not believe that Christianity contains anything which a genius like Christ's, brought up and nourished as his had been, might not have disentangled for itself. We hold that God has so arranged matters in this beautiful and well-ordered, but mysteriously-governed universe, that one great mind after another will arise from time to time to discover and flash forth before the eyes of men the truths that are wanted, and the amount of truth that can be borne."

Which resolves the whole difficulty, after all, merely into one of mode of communication; for to raise up men to see, to discover, and to teach great and eternal truths is really, after all, simply revelation.

On the central question stirred by Strauss, and re-echoed by Mr. Stephen, Mr. Greg in a long introduction to this new edition of the "Creed of Christendom" gives this answer, which is well worth being pondered:—

"I am disposed to give an entirely opposite answer to Strauss' question—'Are we Christians?'—to that Strauss himself has given, and to believe that when we have really penetrated to the actual teaching of Christ, and fairly disinterred that religion of Jesus which preceded all creeds and schemes and formulas, and which we trust will survive them all, we shall find that, so far from this, the true essence of Christianity, being renounced or outgrown by the progressive intelligence of the age, its rescue, rediscovery, purification, and re-enthronement as a guide of life, a fountain of truth, an object of faith, a law written on the heart, will be recognised as the grandest and most beneficent achievement of that intelligence. It may well prove its slowest as its hardest achievement; for it is proverbially more difficult to restore than to build up afresh. To renovate without destroying is of all functions that which requires the most delicate perceptions, the truest intuition, the most reverent and subtle penetration into the spirit of the original structure, as well as manipulation at once the most skilful and the most courageous. And the task imposed upon the thought and piety of the coming time is to perform this function on the faith and creed of centuries and nations; and to perform it amid the bewildering cries of interests and orders whom you will have rooted out of their comfortable and venerable nests; of age, which you will have disturbed in its most cherished prejudices; of affections, which you will have wounded in their tenderest points; of massive multitudes whom you will have disturbed in what they fancied were convictions and ideas; of worshippers, whose idol only you will have overthrown, but who will cry out that you have desecrated and unshrined their god; of craftsmen, of the Ephesian type, who know that by 'this craft they have their wealth'; and of cynical and faithless statesmen whose unpaid policemen and detectives (the more efficient and more feared because unseen), and whose self-supporting penal settlements elsewhere (the more dreaded by malefactors because emotely-placed, invisible, and undefined), you will be supposed to have abolished."

As a thoughtful and not inadequate statement of the real bearing of many of Christ's directions as to non-resistance, almsgiving, improvidence, and communism, we commend to our readers this introductory essay, which on these points especially is sensible, suggestive, and impressed with conviction; and when we come on a passage like the following, we see how it may well be said that Mr. Greg, unlike some of the new reformers, does not burn down the bridges behind him that the common crowd may not pass over after him:—

"Even if the human intellect could reach the truth about God, human language would hardly be adequate to give expression to the transcendent thought. Meanwhile recognising and realising this with an unfeigned humbleness which yet has nothing disheartening in its spirit, my own conception—perhaps from early mental habit, perhaps from incurable and very conscious metaphysical inaptitude—approaches far nearer to the old current image of a personal God than to any of the sublimated substitutes of modern thought. Strauss' 'Universum,' Comte's 'Humanity,' even Mr. Arnold's 'Stream of Tendency' that makes for Righteousness, excite in me no enthusiasm, command from me no worship. I cannot pray to the 'Immanities' and the 'Eternities' of Carlyle. They prompt me no help; they vouchsafe no sympathy; they suggest no comfort. It may be that such a

* *Essays on Free-thinking and Plain Speaking.* By LESLIE STEPHEN. (Longman.)
The Creed of Christendom: its Foundations Contrasted with its Superstructures. By WILLIAM BARNES GREG. Third Edition, with a new introduction. In one volume. (Fisher and Co.)

personal God is a mere anthropomorphic creation. It may be—as philosophers with far finer instruments of thought than mine affirm—that the conception of such a being, duly analysed, is demonstrably a self-contradictory one. But at least in resting on it, I rest on something I almost seem to realise; at least I share the view which Jesus indisputably held of the Father whom he obeyed, communed with, and worshipped."

Although on minor points we might argue with Mr. Greg—especially on points where his readiness to accept the results of German criticism, as we conceive, misleads him—we are more concerned here to exhibit the sincere and beautiful spirit he brings with him and carries with him through his task. Up to a certain point, he is faithful to restore, to renovate, to re-invigorate faith; and so far we must distinguish him from the class to which Mr. Stephen belongs. For we believe there is an almost unsoundable depth in these words from the latter portion of John Stuart Mill's Autobiography—which have a very direct bearing on this subject:—

"When the philosophical minds of the world can no longer believe its religion, or can only believe it with modifications amounting to an essential change of its character, a transitional period commences, of weak convictions, paralysed intellects, and growing laxity of principle, which cannot terminate until a renovation has been effected in the bases of their belief, leading to the evolution of some faith, which they can really believe; and when things are in this state, all thinking or writing which does not tend to promote such a renovation, is of very little value beyond the moment." Page 239.

NEW NOVELS.*

In an age when critics are driven to complain of the "plague of books," and wonder how it can be stayed, when we get more than 5,000 volumes in a year—that is an average of about 100 a week—and the cry is still "they come," and when fiction contributes even more than its fair quota to the total, an authoress who shows that it is possible to produce a good story in a single volume is really a benefactor to the reviewing and reading world. This is what Miss Saunders has done in her charming tale of "Margaret and Elizabeth," in which there is material from which a certain class of novelists would have eked out six volumes at least. It is an admirable example of condensed power, by which writers, who think that it is a proof of their art to spin out long conversations and tedious descriptions, which have little bearing either on the development of character or the working out of the plot over scores of pages, might profit. The only consolation to the reader is that he may safely skip them without danger of losing the thread of the narrative, which in truth may be taken up at almost any point without serious detriment. One of the worst features of this style of writing is that it tends to become, as Carlyle says in a note of certain literary works, "waterier and waterier still," and the faults of one author in this respect serve as an encouragement to another. The very opposite to this is Miss Saunders, who gives us a tale with considerable vivacity, and indeed, transports us from the quiet home of a retired English port to a desert island in tropical regions, depicts varieties of scenery, character, and life, awakens strong and tender sympathy in some of her characters, and altogether shows no little originality both in her portraiture and her plot, and yet does it all in a single volume of moderate dimensions. It is not difficult to see how at various points there must have been strong temptation to lengthen the work, and how easily a power like hers might have done it with considerable effect; but she was able to resist a tendency which it is easy to suppose must at times have been very hard to overcome. Her readers may well be thankful for the victory achieved and the self-restraint exercised. "Margaret and Elizabeth" is a story which attracts, partly by its marked difference from the ordinary style of novels; partly by the weird-like character that belongs to some of its scenes, especially to the very graphic and striking picture of the flight of Hector Browne; and partly from the interest awakened by the two women who may be regarded as the heroines. So far as the story of Elizabeth Vandereck is concerned, it reminds us of the story of Enoch Arden, while her residence in the desert isle, which is described with a great deal of beauty and power, of course necessarily recalls Robinson Crusoe, though there is enough of freshness about it to give it an individuality of its own. We do not mean to say that the incidents are very probable, but at all events they are not improbable, nor are they sensational in the bad sense of the term.

* *Margaret and Elizabeth. A Story of the Sea.* By KATHERINE SAUNDERS. (London: Henry S. King and Co.)

Better than Gold. By Mrs. ARNOLD. Three Vols. (London: Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.)

Mysie's Pardon. By J. W. HAY. Three Vols. (William Blackwood.)

The tone of the book is healthy, some of its sketchings of character vigorous and effective, and the interest fully sustained.

In "Better than Gold," Mrs. Arnold endeavours to illustrate the old truth that "a good name is rather to reckon than great riches," and loving favour than choice gold." She might have properly selected the proverb from the old book as her motto, and the course of the story would form a comment upon it as suggestive as interesting. Mr. Reid, who plays one of the principal parts in it, is one of those hard, resolute, ambitious men who are drawn on step by step in the pursuit of their cherished object, until at length, to all the other offerings on the altar of avarice or ambition, they add the sacrifice of principle. Such characters are by no means uncommon in fiction, and for the sake of our common humanity, we hope they are more frequent there than in real life, for assuredly they are not very genial companions. Nor is it a pleasant idea to entertain that gentlemen whom we meet in social life, and who to all appearances are well-to-do, prosperous merchants, are ready to deceive their partners, to involve their subordinates in suspicion and difficulty, and in general to carry on proceedings which are anything but reputable in order to win the distinction they seek. Of the exact object which Mr. Reid was seeking, and the way in which he proposed to accomplish it, we got but a hazy idea from the story; but ladies can hardly be expected to be very exact in relation to monetary details; and we must satisfy ourselves that he, an important and highly-trusted country banker, was aggrandising himself at the expense both of his partner and their customers, when suddenly the whole scheme collapsed. A man of this kind is sure in a novel at least to have some very charming relatives whose worth he fails to appreciate, and who, on that account, win all the more on the hearts of the reader. There is a large circle of ladies at Mr. Reid's, and with the exception of one of the daughters, who is the victim of an error and jealousy, and whose intrigues produce one part of the plot, they are very amiable and attractive. We leave our readers to follow the story themselves—to make acquaintance with Frank Moore and his sailor acquaintance, Job Foster; to learn how Mr. Reid in his intense selfishness and injustice sought to cross the love of Alfred Fairfax and the niece whom he would have defrauded, and how events baffled him; to interest themselves in the conspiracy of Howard, Evans, and Gough and to enjoy some of the pleasantness of Wyewood society. The book is by no means to be relegated to one of the inferior departments of fiction. It has a good deal both of force and beauty, without having any remarkable merit. The plot is well conceived, and some of the actors have sufficient strength and character to interest us in their fortunes.

"Mysie's Pardon" comes from Australia, and is thus entitled to the kindly welcome which we ought to accord to an importation from a region in which we must be interested. It is to be said in its favour, too, that it is not only of Australian authorship, but it has an Australian flavour about it. After the opening part, in which we learn something of the early history of the actors, the scene is laid entirely in Victoria, or in New Zealand, and the picture of colonial life thus given to us is evidently drawn by one who is perfectly familiar with it. We pass to and fro from the town to the country; we visit farms and diggings, as well as the cities of that new world; we are introduced to quite homesteads, to busy counting-houses, and to those stock-exchanges—if it is right to describe by such a name places such as the "Corner" in Ballarat—which are little better than the gambling-saloons of Homburg, and in some respects even worse. The characters, however, are from the old country, and they retain much of the spirit of the fatherland. The centre group consists of a Scotch family—a brother and sister, with a young half-sister, all of whom have strongly pronounced qualities. Mysie, especially, is a woman of great force, and a force which is for a long time developed in a very unpleasant way. She has a temper of her own which has not been improved by the hard and trying life she led before emigrating to Australia. Though she loves her brother, she likes to rule him; and for her half-sister she has an antipathy which would have been unnatural, and which we should have pronounced altogether improbable, but for antecedent circumstances. The strongly developed points of her character, however, add great piquancy to the story, and if they sometimes rouse the indignation of the reader, serve at the same time to interest him. What complications her temper brought, what mischief it had nearly caused, how Mysie was led to repentance, and how she obtained pardon, are not these all told in Mr. Hay's chronicle? The characters of

Mysie and Maggie are well contrasted, and there is much natural beauty and simplicity in the delineations of character and natural scenery, as well as in the incidents of the tale. It has the great recommendation of being unconventional, and of placing us amid scenes with which we are unfamiliar, and there is an evidence of power which may do something even better than this story.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Wise Men: who they were; and how they came to Jerusalem. By FRANCIS W. UPHAM, LL.D. (Hodder and Stoughton.) This is a reprint of a monograph on the Magi, which has been highly commended by eminent divines and a portion of the press in the United States, to which country its author belongs. Dr. Upham has brought together within small space, a vast amount of information about the ancient sacred order of *savans* in Persia, and their geographical and historical relations to the Hebrew nation. To Dr. Upham the record of Matt. ii. is pure history without the slightest admixture of legend, and his book is written in something of the spirit of a lawyer, who has set himself to gather together, and present in the best possible light, all the evidence obtainable in favour of his view of the case. But the reader need not fear that dryness of style which the epithet legal suggests to the mind. Nor do we perceive any trace of unfairness in dealing with the evidence. On the contrary, the author candidly discusses the hypothesis of Kepler, revived by Dr. Ideler, that the Star should be displaced from the category of the supernatural, and be referred to the ordinary astronomical conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn, arriving at the conclusion, that though this conjunction probably had great influence in directing the attention of the Magi to the Star, it was not the Star itself. In his view the Star was miraculous, and its appearance is sufficiently attested by the evidence of St. Matthew alone. Granting this, the other remarkable features of the story, viz.: that the Magi interpreted the appearance of the Star in that way, that they were so courteously received by the suspicious and bloody tyrant Herod, are strikingly corroborated by the very interesting account of these Persian philosophers here given us. The book would be a good introduction to the study of the relations of Judea and its religion with the great nations of the East.

The Well is Deep; or, Scripture Illustrating Scripture. Arranged as Morning and Evening Bible Reading for Every Day in the Year. (Nisbet and Co.) This little book is a daily text-book, and a guide to selected portions of the Bible for morning and evening reading. It consists of 366 small pages, a page for a day. At the head of each page is a short Scripture motto, such as, "I am the light of the world," "Enoch walked with God." Under the motto one or two passages are suggested for morning reading, and a text or two, with a verse of a hymn, are printed. The arrangement for the evening is similar. The Bible may be advantageously studied in many ways. The best way, we believe, is to read one of the inspired writings straight through, to obtain a general view of its whole contents, and then to study it in detail according to its natural divisions. If, however, this method be not neglected, it may be useful to some to have a guide to selected passages, arranged in reference to particular truths. This, like many similar works, displays a predilection for certain topics, such as grace, faith, resignation, &c., to the comparative oblivion of other important aspects of Christian life. We do not mention this as a reason for the disuse of such helps to devotion, but as a reason for using them only as helps, and combining a more systematic study of Scripture with the use of them.

We are pleased to see a new edition of Lord Russell's *Essay on the History of Christian Religion* (Longmans), which so skilfully compacts into short space the substance of libraries, and this in a most attractive and finished manner. The book has been found useful, and will, doubtless, now be more so, in this neater and cheaper form. We heartily commend it. The chapters on "the Church of England" and "The Results of the Reformation" are truly admirable.

The Old Book Tested. Popular Queries about the Bible. By the Rev. JOHN WHITE, Belfast. (Hodder and Stoughton.) Mr. White has chosen a work which was right well worth doing, and he has done it very well. That is to condense into an available form the great arguments against infidelity and rejection of the Christian Scriptures. Mr. White is always simple, sometimes lively, and throughout gives the impression of real earnestness.

The book, on the whole, is well put together, and is worthy of attention. It is not so systematic as Mr. Cowper's lectures on a similar subject, but may perhaps be read where his might be deemed too logical and exhaustive in their structure.

Family Prayers. By MAXWELL NICHOLSON, D.D., of St. Stephen's Church. (Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd.) Dr. Nicholson is a powerful preacher and an eloquent writer, and an earnest man. He has, too, real literary feeling, and has produced a manual of prayers which we think are admirable. The book is printed in large clear type, and is well adapted for its special purpose.

The *Fortnightly Review* opens with the last words of Joseph Mazzini. It appears that the great Italian patriot had shortly before his death been reading Renan's essay, "La Reforme Morale et Intellectuelle." The present article expresses the disapprobation that he felt of the French writer's inadequate realisation of his country's moral needs. These last words are noble and impressive. Mr. F. W. Newman in an article on "Organised Priesthood," argues the disestablishment question from a somewhat novel point of view. He repudiates the right of anyone to leave money for the purpose of propagating special doctrines on any subjects, and insists that the State ought not to confirm such bequests. His arguments are well worthy of consideration. Mr. Fawcett writes on the position and prospects of co-operation. His name is a sufficient guarantee of quality. The remaining article of striking importance is one by Mr. T. E. Cliffe Leslie on the "Incidence of Taxation on the Working Classes." The whole number maintains the high character of the *Review*.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

MATRICATION, JANUARY, 1874.

The following is a list of candidates who passed in the Honours Division the late Examination for Matriculation:— Charles Alfred Dagnall Clark, Uppingham School; John Shaw, City of London School and private study; William Simms, Christ's College, Cambridge, and private study; Francis Gaskell, Trinity Hall, Cambridge; Ernest Albert Parkyn, Amersham Hall School; Adolphe Brunner, private study; Thomas Gough, private study; Charles Daulman Webb, Croom's Hill School, King's College, and private study; John Simpson, private tuition and study; Joseph Kershaw, King's College School and Wesleyan College, Taunton; William Henry Neale, Belisle Manor, King's College School, and University College; Herbert George Fuller, Christ's College, Finchley; William James Lake, University College and School; Sidney White, Morden Hall and University College and School; Robert Wm. Archer, Singleton House; William Pasteur, University of Geneva and private tuition, and George Percy, Woodhousegrove and Wesleyan College, Taunton—equal; Anthony Tacchi, Seckford and St. Asaph Grammar Schools; Walter Plumb Root, Chigwell Grammar School; Robert Spence Walton, Mr. Jackson's School and Wesley College; Alfred Carrol Hunter, Lyem. Heid., Lycée Bonap., and private tuition; John Joseph Quelch, Clevedon College and New College, Eastbourne; Henry Barracough, Mr. Spry's School, Leeds; Vaniah Odom, private study and tuition.

* Exhibition of thirty pounds per annum for two years.
+ Exhibition of twenty pounds per annum for two years.
‡ Disqualified by age for the Third Exhibition.
§ Disqualified by age for the Third Exhibition.
|| Exhibition of fifteen pounds per annum for two years.

Miscellaneous.

THE LATE DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The *Academy* has been favoured by Dr. Kirk with a private telegram which he has received from Brigadier-General Schneider, C.B., the Political Resident at Aden, with reference to the news of the death of Livingstone. Dr. Kirk considered that the details given in the telegram published concerning Livingstone's death presented so many doubtful points which required clearing up that he was anxious to ascertain whether Cameron had convinced himself of the accuracy of these reports by personal examination of the messengers who, it is said, preceded Livingstone's dead body to Unyanyembe, and among whom was Chumah, his servant. He therefore telegraphed to General Schneider, who sent the following reply:—"Aden, February 2, 5.15 p.m.—Captain Prideaux merely says Chumah went ahead and gave intelligence to Cameron."

A WEDDING PRESENT FROM THE BIBLE SOCIETY.—The *Bible Society Monthly Reporter* states:—"The committee have had a Russian Bible specially bound for presentation to Her Imperial Highness the Archduchess Marie Alexandrovna of Russia, on the occasion of her marriage. Owing to the fact that the new version is not yet completely printed, the Octateuch prepared by the original Russian Bible Society had to take the place of the new translation of the Octateuch now in the press. The second volume contained the society's new translation of the Historical and Prophetical Books; and the society's marginal reference edition of the New Testament (the only one in existence) made the third volume of the work. The three volumes were entrusted to the care of the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, who has kindly undertaken

to present them. An English Bible will be presented to H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh on his return."

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.—Mr. Leslie's nineteenth season will commence on Thursday, the 19th inst., when the first part of the concert will consist of a selection from Mendelssohn's works, including "Hear my prayer," and three hitherto unpublished part-songs for male voices, which will be performed for the first time in public. The second part will comprise several English madrigals and part-songs, including some new ones by Messrs. Blumenthal, J. F. Barnett, J. C. Ward, and Henry Leslie himself; and Miss Edith Wynne and Mr. Edward Lloyd will contribute some solo music. This performance will therefore be particularly interesting. Not less so will be a sacred concert, which is announced for March 24, when will be performed, for the first time, a recently-discovered motett, "Dixit Dominus," for double choir by Samuel Wesley, an anthem by Charles Horsley, "I was glad," a "Tantum ergo," by J. F. Barnett, and other new or little-known works, in addition to Bach's, "I wrestle and pray," Mendelssohn's, "Judge me, O God," and other old favourites. These two concerts are all that Mr. Leslie announces for the present.

BEER AND THE BIBLE.—The statue of Queen Anne in St. Paul's Churchyard has been described as standing—

With her face to the brandy shop
And her back to the church.

A publican of Burslem has endeavoured to adjust his principles so as to face in both these directions at once. A placard outside his door bears the following:—

We have been taunted by our opponents that we have carried all the recent elections in collusion with the Church, of which I, for one, am very proud. Let us stick to the taunt of

BEER AND THE BIBLE

AND STAND BY A

NATIONAL CHURCH

AND A

NATIONAL BEVERAGE.

There is something most pitiful and curious to contemplate in the state of mind which regards as equally dear and sacred not its hearth and home, but its Gospel and its mug—the Church of England and Double XX. The landlord of Burslem obviously belongs to that class which Bacon, had he lived in our day, would have described as worshipping the idols of the counter, and carrying his idolatry so far as honestly to believe it a religion as good as another, and quite worthy to be placed side by side with fidelity to the Church. It is curious to contemplate the feelings of this worthy man's pastor, strolling at eventide about his parish, and sadly pondering on the difficult duty of instilling the principles of sobriety and self-restraint into the souls of his flock, suddenly coming upon this placard, and perceiving that his Holy Book, whence he has drawn his lessons, is somehow considered, like a biscuit or a bit of toasted cheese, as a sort of natural accompaniment and adjunct to beer, and that his Church is valued chiefly on patriotic motives equally extending to the beverage.—*Echo*.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.—The annual report of the institution, the details of which are given elsewhere, shows that the net profits for the past half-year were 168,895*l.*, from which the directors have declared a dividend at the rate of twenty per cent. per annum, after placing 28,000*l.* to the credit of the premises account, and carrying forward a balance of 23,917*l.* to the next account. The paid-up capital was 1,200,000*l.*, and the reserve fund 600,000*l.* To meet the requirements of the progressive increase in the business of the bank, the directors propose that the 15,000*l.* shares authorised to be issued by a previous meeting be at once offered rateably amongst the shareholders at 30*l.* each.

THE BIRKBECK PROPERTY INVESTMENT TRUST.—Subscriptions are invited to the remaining portion of the 2500,000 certificates of the Birkbeck Property Investment Trust, which were in the first place offered to the constituents of the building society of that name. The object is to take over the property which falls into the hands of the society from time to time. The certificates will bear 5 per cent. interest, and the price of issue is 88 per cent., making the yield 5*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* per cent. The certificates will be repaid by annual drawings within twenty-five years. After the expiration of fifteen years the holders of the undrawn bonds become possessed of the remaining property of the trust, less 10 per cent., which goes to the holders of the drawn bonds.

LIGHT CABLE COMPANY.—The particulars are now finally published of the Light Cable Telegraph Company (Limited), which is founded, apparently under the auspices of the Submarine Telegraph Company, to introduce a system of light cables in contradistinction to those now in use. It is first intended to lay a cable across the Atlantic to America, a serious enterprise to both the new and the old companies, and one which excites a great deal of interest. This company now seeks subscriptions for 380,000*l.* in shares of 10*l.* It has secured certain necessary patent rights for 20,000*l.*, and has contracted with Messrs. Ballivan and Allen for the construction, equipment, full insurance, laying this year, and maintenance of good working order, for thirty days after laying of a cable from the Azores to Halifax for 480,000*l.*, of which 145,000*l.* is to be paid in six per cent. mortgage debentures. It is stated that a tariff of 1*s.* per word against 4*s.* now charged, will

yield a good dividend; and the contractors state that upwards of 300 miles of the core have already been constructed, and that the cable will be laid during the summer of this year. The leading merchants and shipowners connected with the American trade in London, Glasgow, Liverpool, and Manchester, it is said, have promised their cordial support to the undertaking.

Gleanings.

An observant old lady says that "no other living thing can go so slow as a boy on an errand."

A chiropodist announces on his cards that he has removed corns from "several of the crowned heads of Europe."

The following advertisement has appeared in the *Record* newspaper:—"Wanted, a second-hand set of Commandments. Old-fashioned ones painted on wood will do."

A faithful brother in a Fairfield (Connecticut) church recently prayed for the absent members "who were prostrate on beds of sickness and chairs of wellness."

Coleridge, when lecturing as a young man, was once violently hissed. He immediately retorted, "When a cold stream of truth is poured on red-hot prejudices, no wonder that they hiss."

The *Pekin Gazette* is the oldest journal in the world. It is printed on a large sheet of yellow silk, and appears in the same form, with the same characters, and on the same kind of stuff as it did a thousand years ago. The only change is in the writers.

The editor of the *Watchman's Cry*, the Personal Advent paper, published in New York, says that "this copy of the paper may never reach those for whom the words of comfort and encouragement are intended." He does not expect ever to issue another *Cry*, for in about a week "all the good will meet in another kingdom." The week passed, however, and the paper will continue to be published.

A male and female Ourang-Outang have been brought from Borneo and are now at the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park. They have large intelligent faces, with less restless eyes than are common to monkeys, and their limbs and bodies are covered with long coarse red hair. Their hands are much longer and more attenuated than those of the chimpanzee, and the thumb (especially in the hinder pair) is smaller and less powerful. They are obviously an attached couple, and spend most of their time with their arms about each other's necks.

THE CITY POLL.—A correspondent sends us the following as one of the squibs which the present election has produced:—

Let no poor Rad pull a long face,
Nor Goschen's spirits drop;
The bottom's the distinguished place,
When Cotton's at the top.

A CAUTION.—The *Times* (City Article) notes that false sovereigns, chiefly composed of platinum, are in circulation, and are not to be distinguished from the genuine coin except by the process of ringing, when the difference in sound can immediately be detected.

A CORRECTION.—An energetic young Irishman, who had been reported as among the "fatally injured" by a railroad accident, and afterwards reported as not among that unfortunate company, writes to the editor, saying:—"I tell you I was among the fatally injured, but the reason I didn't die was because I'm always temperate in my living, and have a splendid constitution naturally."

A MISUNDERSTANDING.—The *Duc de Broglie*, says a French journal, lets some property to a wealthy countryman who pays his rent at the periods usually fixed by rural customs. The tenant, who is always very exact in his payments, defaulted on the last pay-day, without giving notice. The Duc, surprised at his neglect, sent for an explanation, whereupon the farmer replied:—"I had the money all ready for last Thursday when my rent became due, but I did not take it to Paris in consequence of having seen the following notice, 'The Minister of the Interior will not receive on Thursday next nor on subsequent Thursdays.'"

THE HAIRDRESS OF THE GRAND DUCHESS.—It is stated that among the pocket handkerchiefs in the Grand Duchess's trousseau there is one that was purchased last year in Italy for 12,000*fr.* by the Grand Duchess, and is said to have cost the empress the best years of her life and her eyes into the bargain. According to the *Daily News*, correspondent everything about the Russian Court is on such a scale that coming to settle in England will seem to the Grand Duchess like retiring into private life, and a honeymoon passed at Clarence House like the realisation of that "love in a cottage" about which poets have so often sung.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatic and Nervous Pains.—Choking fogs and cold weather will provoke these tortures in constitutions susceptible to these maladies. Nothing affords so much relief as Holloway's ointment, well rubbed upon the skin, after repeated warm fomentations. Thousands of testimonials bear witness to the wonderful comfort obtained from this safe and simple treatment, which all can adopt. Holloway's ointment assists by the judicious use of his pills, and is especially serviceable in assuaging the sufferings from cramp, and other muscular pains. Nor are these remedies less useful in arresting diarrhoea, in easing stomachic pains and in removing other internal complaints prevalent in winter, when suddenly changing temperatures continually occasion these inconveniences.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

A uniform charge of One Shilling (prepaid) is made for announcements under this heading, for which postage-stamps will be received. All such announcements must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.]

BIRTHS.

PROUT.—On Feb. 8, at Bridgewater, the wife of the Rev. Edward S. Prout, M.A., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BAILEY—ROWLEY.—On Feb. 7, at Mornington Church, by the Rev. G. Proctor, Henry Bailey, of Hampstead-road, to Caroline Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Jasper Rowley, of Hillmartin-road, Camden-road.

HOLLIDAY—GALLAWAY.—On Feb. 5, at the first Congregational Church, West Bromwich, by the father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. H. Luckett, Richard, eldest son of Mr. Holliday, of Meyrick House, West Bromwich, to Sarah Jane, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., of Lower Clapton, London, and niece of Mrs. Whitehouse, of Heath Cottage, West Bromwich.

DEATHS.

MEDWAY.—On Feb. 3, at Royston, in the 77th year of her age, Mary, the wife of the Rev. John Medway.

CHISHOLM.—On Feb. 5, at Spalding, of bronchitis, after sixteen days' illness, Louis Cugny, third son of the Rev. Samuel Chisholm, aged 2 years and 8 months.

FUNERAL REFORM.

The LONDON NECROPOLIS COMPANY conducts Funerals with simplicity, and with great economy. Prospectus free.—Chief Office, 2, Lancaster-place, Strand, W.C.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Feb. 4, 1874.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued £36,564,030 Government Debt. £11,015,100
Other Securities .. 3,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion 21,564,000
Silver Bullion

£36,564,030

£36,564,030

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's Capital £14,553,000 Government Securities, (inc. dead weight annuity) £13,907,400
Reserve .. 3,432,190 Other Securities .. 16,981,200
Public Deposits .. 6,081,109 Notes .. 10,584,100
Other Deposits .. 17,719,293 Gold & Silver Coin 730,130
Seven Day and other Bills .. 386,445

£42,172,087

£42,172,087

Feb. 5, 1874.

F. MAY, Chief Cashier.

BREAKFAST.—EPPE'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Eppe has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills.—Civil Service Gazette. Made simply with boiling water or milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPE'S COCOA, Homoeopathic Chemists, London."

MARSHALL'S OF THE INNOCENTS.—Parents valuing their children's safety will avoid soothing medicines containing opium, so frequently fatal to infants, and will use only "Stedman's Teething Powders," which are the safest and best, being free from opium. Prepared by a surgeon (not a chemist) having special experience in children's diseases, whose name, "Stedman," has but one "e" in it. Trade mark, a Lion passant. Refuse all others. Also Materfamilias Pills, a safe and efficient substitute for Castor Oil. Price 2s. 3d. per box. Depot—East-road, Hoxton, London, N.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Feb. 9.

We have moderate arrivals of wheat, and we have had a steady market, and the prices of this day week are just maintained for both English and Foreign. For flour the sale is slow, and currencies unchanged. Barley, beans and peas are unaltered in value. We have liberal supplies of oats, and the demand is good for fine dry corn, and inferior qualities sell slowly, at barely late prices. There has been some foreign demand for cargoes of wheat, and price of wheat, barley, and maize is just maintained.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	FRAS—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent,	s.	d.	Grey ..	s.	d.
White fine ..	68		Maple ..	36 to 39	
" new ..	54		White, boilers ..	39 45	
red fine ..	to 65		Foreign ..	40 44	
Ditto new ..	56				
Foreign red ..	58 61		RYE— ..	42 44	
" white ..	64 66				
BARLEY—			OATS—		
Grinding ..	34 38		English feed ..	24 32	
Chevalier ..	46 56		" potato ..	—	
Distilling ..	40 47		Scotch feed ..	—	
Foreign ..	40 44		" potato ..	—	
MALT—			Irish Black ..	24 28	
Pale, new ..	73 78		" White ..	23 29	
Chevalier ..	—		Foreign feed ..	24 28	
Brown ..	54 59				
BEANS—			FLOUR—		
Ticks ..	40 41		Town made ..	50 57	
Harrow ..	42 48		Best country ..	—	
Pigeon ..	47 52		households ..	45 47	
Egyptian ..	42 43		Norfolk and ..	—	
			Suffolk ..	39 44	

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Feb. 9.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 3,542 head. In the corresponding week last year we received 8,200; in 1872, 8,601; in 1871, 6,140; and in 1870, 4,397 head. A dull tone has pervaded the cattle trade to-day. The supplies of stock have not

been large, but they have been sufficient for requirements, the demand ruling heavy. From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts have been limited. Throughout, sales have progressed steadily, and prices have given way, 2d. per 8lbs.; the best Scots and crosses selling at 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire we received about 1,200; from other parts of England, about 500; from Scotland, 178; and from Ireland, about 70 head. On the foreign side of the market, the show has not been large, there being between 500 and 600 Dutch, and about 300 Spanish. The demand has been inactive, and prices have ruled in favour of buyers. The sheep market has been scantily supplied. Nevertheless there has been an absence of animation in the inquiry. The choicest small Down has occasionally made 7s., but 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. per 8lbs. has been the general top quotations. Calves have been in moderate request at low rates. Pigs have been dull and unaltered.

Per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	4 4 to 5 0	Pr. coarse woolled	6 6 8				
Second quality	5 0 5 4	Prime Southdown	6 8 7 0				
Prime large oxen	5 8 5 10	Large coarse calves	5 8 6 0				
Prime Scots ..	5 10 6 0	Prime small	6 6 6 10				
Coarse inf. sheep	5 6 5 10	Large hogs	3 6 3 10				
Second quality	5 10 6 0	Neat sm. porkers	4 0 4 8				

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Feb. 9.—A moderate supply of meat was on sale here to-day, and the trade was slow at the subjoined currency.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	3 6 to 4 2	Inferior Mutton	3 8 to 4 4				
Middling do.	4 4 to 4 8	Middling do.	4 6 to 5 0				
Prime large do.	5 0 to 5 4	Prime do.	5 4 to 5 8				
Prime small do.	5 2 to 5 6	Large pork	3 8 to 4 4				
Veal ..	5 0 to 5 8	Small do.	4 8 to 5 4				

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Feb. 9.—We can report no alteration in our market, which continues extremely quiet, with very uneven prices. There has been little or no demand during the past week; a better trade, however, is anticipated after the conclusion of the elections. Continental markets are quiet. Mid and East Kent, 5l. 12s., 6l. 10s.; 8l. 8s.; Weald of Kent, 4l. 18s., 5l. 10s., 5l. 15s.; Sussex, 4l. 13s., 5l. 12s.; Farnham and Country, 5l. 12s., 6l. 10s., 7l. 10s.; Farnham, 7l. 0s., 8l. 0s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 9.—Fair supplies of homegrown potatoes are on sale at these markets, and the trade is steady, at full prices. Best Regents, 115s. to 125s. per ton; Regents, 90s. to 110s. per ton; Rocks, 75s. to 85s. per ton; Best Flukes, 120s. to 140s. per ton.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Feb. 9.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 186 firkins butter, and 4,167 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 27,460 packages butter, 1,417 bales bacon. The supplies of foreign butter are increasing, and prices generally were rather in favour of buyers with the exception of best Dutch, which advanced 4s., say to 146s. to 150s. The Bacon market ruled firm, and at the close of the week an advance was realised of 4s. on best Waterford, 3s. on Limerick, and 2s. on Hamburg cure. Best Waterford orders charged 80s. free on board.

SEED, Monday, Feb. 9.—English cloverseed comes out slowly; fine dark samples of red brought very high prices, but inferior samples could be bought at low and irregular rates. Fine qualities of foreign, both red and white, were rather dearer, with an improved demand. Best Trefoil met more inquiry, and commanded a slight advance. White mustardseeds were taken off in small lots, at no change in value. There was nothing passing in brown, for want of supply. Canaryseed sold steadily on former terms. Large hempseed was quite as dear. Spring tares met a moderate sale, at the full rates of last week.

WOOL, Monday, Feb. 9.—There has been no feature in the wool trade. In English produce transactions have been on a very moderate scale, and prices have been unaltered. Colonial descriptions have been inactive and without change in value.

OIL, Monday, Feb. 9.—Lined oil has been in moderate request at about late rates. Rape has been quiet. Other oils have been inactive.

TALLOW, Monday, Feb. 9.—P.Y.C. is dull at 40s. per cwt. on the spot, and town tallow is now quoted at 38s. per cwt. net cash. Rough fat 1s. 10d. per 8lbs.

COAL, Monday, Feb. 9.—There was a brisk demand for house coal, and prices advanced 6d. per ton. Hettons, 25s.; Tees, 25s. 3d.; Hartons, 23s. 9d.; Hetton Lyons, 23s. 9d. Ships at market, 49; at sea, 5.

The Rev. JOHN RATTENBURY writes, April 5, 1872:—"I have no hesitation in declaring that Turner's Tamarind Emulsion soothes and removes bronchial irritation and gives strength and tone to the voice." Oct. 8, 1872, the Rev. G. C. Harvard writes: "We always keep the Tamarind Emulsion in our house; it is an excellent thing for hoarseness, and clears the voice most effectually." 134d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle. Sold at 4, Cheapside; 150, Oxford-street, W.; and all leading chemists in the kingdom.

JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES are exceedingly useful household commodities. The process is simple, and result satisfactory, as applied to woollen and silk articles. Shetland shawls or cloths that have become yellow are good subjects for young beginners in the art of dyeing. A basin of water only required; time, five minutes! Judson's Dyes, 6d. per bottle, eighteen colours, of all Chemists and Stationers.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.—This most celebrated and delicious old mellow spirit is the very cream of Irish Whiskies, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy. Note the Red Seal, Pink label, and Cork branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky." Wholesale, 20, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-st., W.

Advertisements.

CONFERENCE of CHRISTIAN WORKERS.

The SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING will be held in the WEST LONDON TABERNACLE, NOTTING-HILL, on FRIDAY, February 27. Meetings at 3 and 7. Tea at 5.30. Subject—"Lessons from Past and Present Revivals." Chairman, Mr. H. VENABLE; Openers, Rev. Dr. Patterson and Mr. Benjamin Scott. Admission by tickets only, to be had by enclosing a stamp to Capt. the Hon. R. Moreton, Conference Hall, Midway-park, N. 4

MURRAY'S STUDENT'S MANUALS.

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Notwithstanding these facts, there are few associations having for their object the investment of money in the purchase of houses and shops, and those existing are on a very limited scale. Building Societies, which are popularly supposed to buy and sell houses, do not act in a corporate capacity; they restrict their operations to advancing money to their members for this purpose, and each member acts for himself. In the purchase of a house or shop the member studies his own special wants and wishes, and perhaps finds that he has made an imprudent purchase. On the other hand, another member buys a house which by some fortuitous circumstance or the natural rise in value turns out to be a very lucrative investment. These are the opposite results of individual action. That the general results are favourable to the members as a body, the position of all well-managed Building Societies sufficiently proves, for they exhibit unmistakable signs of prosperity, and their shares bear a high premium. As an instance, the last annual report (the twenty-second) of the Birkbeck Building Society states that shares issued by it in 1853, on which (omitting fractions) £39 have been paid, are now worth £72; those issued in 1855, amount paid £34, are worth £82; while those issued in 1870, on which £11 only have been paid, are worth £15 at the present time.

These facts furnish sufficient evidence that house and shop property, when dealt with on a large scale, affords a safe and lucrative investment; but to ensure the most favourable terms the transactions must be on a wide basis—dealing with houses of all classes—as the means by which a fair profit can be secured. On this principle the Birkbeck Property Investment Trust will proceed—a principle somewhat analogous to that of an insurance office, where profit is made by multiplying its risks, and extending the area of its transactions.

The operations of the Trust will be to purchase houses and shops, with their fixtures, fittings, &c., in settled and improving localities in London and its suburbs. Arrangements have already been made, contingent upon the amount of the certificates taken up, to enter into possession of a considerable number of houses, so that the capital represented by the certificates may yield an immediate return; but in the event of the amount subscribed being in excess of the value of the properties taken over, and arranged to be purchased, the surplus will be temporarily invested in mortgages, or in readily convertible securities, yielding sufficient to pay the interest on the certificates.

The annual receipts from the rents of the houses, shops, and other properties purchased will be applied by the trustees, after deducting expenses, in paying interest on the certificates. The excess, together with the proceeds of properties which may be sold when favourable opportunities arise, will be applied as a sinking fund in repaying the certificates at par, by annual drawings, extending over a period of twenty-five years. A sum, varying in amount from one to five per cent., in value of the certificates, will be paid off annually. At the expiration of fifteen years from the date of the first drawing the holders of the certificates then undrawn will become entitled to the absolute reversion of the whole of the properties then belonging to the trust, subject to a deduction of one-tenth, as after noted. The trust will be finally closed after the 25th year; the properties sold, and the proceeds distributed, nine-tenths among the holders of the above-mentioned certificates, and the remaining tenth among the holders of the certificates of reversion, representing the certificates drawn during the first fifteen years of the trust.

The advantages of the Birkbeck Property Investment Trust may be thus summed up:

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- (4) An equal share in the properties possessed by the Trust at the end of the fifteenth year, on the terms and conditions set forth in the deed constituting the Trust.

The Trust will be under the control of a board of management, comprising the trustees and a committee of not more than five persons, together with a council of certificate-holders, whose duties will be to audit the accounts of the Trust. In terms of the Deed of Trust it is provided that the members of the board shall receive no remuneration for their services until the annual produce arising from the Trust properties shall reach £25,000, being five per cent. on the amount to be raised. It is further provided that the expenses of management shall be limited to one per cent. on the amount to be raised under the Trust, while the preliminary expenses, including the stamp duty payable under the Act, are fixed at one and a quarter per cent. Any further expenses will be borne by the promoters of the Trust.

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Scrip certificates will be issued to subscribers after allotment, and will be exchanged for the certificates as early as possible after the last instalment is paid. Coupons for the payment of interest on the instalments will be attached to each scrip certificate, which interest will commence from the 31st of March, 1874 (being the date of payment of the first instalment after the allotment), and will be due on the 30th of September and the 31st of March in each year, and be payable at the Birkbeck Bank on the fourteenth day thereafter.

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At the Annual General Meeting of the Proprietors, held on Thursday, the 5th February, 1874, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street Station, the following REPORT for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1873, was read by the Secretary.

FREDERICK FRANCIS, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Proprietors the Balance-sheet of the Bank for the half-year ended on 31st December last, have the pleasure to report that after paying interest to customers and all charges, allowing for rebate and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits amount to £148,700 2s. 6d. This sum, added to £20,189 10s. 6d. brought from the last account, produces a total of £168,895 12s. 6d.

In view of supplying additional accommodation to meet the increasing requirements of the business of the Bank, the Directors have transferred £25,000 to the credit of the Premises Account.

The Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year, free of income-tax, which will absorb £119,978; and that the balance of £23,917 13s. 3d., that will then remain, be carried forward to Profit and Loss New Account.

The present dividend, added to that paid to 30th June, will make 20 per cent. for the year 1873.

The Directors announce with regret the death of William Jardine, Esq., one of the auditors of the Bank; the vacancy thus arising it is in the power of the meeting to fill up.

The Directors retiring by rotation are:—Thomas Stock Cowie, Esq., Frederick Francis, Esq., and Frederick Harrison, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

In consequence of the continued increase in the business of the Company, the Directors recommend that the 15,000 shares already authorised at previous meetings to be issued, be offered rateably amongst the proprietors whose names shall appear on the Share Register of the Company on the 31st March next, such shares to be issued at £30 each, being a premium of £10 per share. A resolution to this effect will be submitted to the meeting.

Acting on the resolution of the proprietors passed at the last half-yearly meeting, and confirmed at an extraordinary meeting held on 21st August, the Directors have effected the Registration of this Company under "The Companies Act, 1862," and the Bank is now a Corporation having perpetual succession and a Common Seal.

The dividend, amounting to £2 per share, free of income tax, will be payable at the head office, or at any of the branches, on or after Monday, the 16th instant.

BALANCE-SHEET

of the London and County Banking Company, 31st December, 1873.

Dr. Capital £1,200,000 0 0
Instalments unpaid 110 0 0 } £1,199,890 0 0
Reserve fund 600,000 0 0
Instalments unpaid 55 0 0 } 599,945 0 0

Amount due by the Bank for customers' balances, &c. 18,077,868 18 4
Liabilities on acceptances, covered by securities ... 4,070,306 4 4 } 22,148,175 2 8

Profit and loss balance brought from last account 20,189 10 9
Gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts 438,874 10 4 } 459,064 1 1

Less amount transferred to premises account ... 25,000 0 0 } £24,382,074 3 9

By Cash in hand at head office and branches, and with Bank of England £3,552,320 16 9
Cash placed at call and at notice, covered by securities 2,656,494 16 11 } £5,208,815 13 8

Investments, viz.:—
Government and guaranteed stocks 1,711,250 6 9
Other stocks and securities 105,995 18 3 } 1,817,246 5 0

Discounted bills, and advances to customers in town and country 12,764,647 14 4
Liabilities of customers for drafts accepted by the Bank, as per contra 4,070,306 4 4 } 16,834,953 18 8

Freehold premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, freehold and leasehold property at the branches, with fixtures and fittings ... 306,169 9 1
Less amount transferred from profit and loss ... 25,000 0 0 } 281,169 9 1

Carried forward £24,142,185 6 5

Brought forward £24,142,185 6 5
Interest paid to customers 122,090 4 0
Salaries and all other expenses at head office and branches, including income-tax on profits and salaries 117,858 13 4 } £24,382,074 3 9

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.
To interest paid to customers, as above £122,090 4 0
Expenses 117,858 13 4
Rebate on bills not due, carried to new account 80,279 10 6
Dividend of 10 per cent. for half-year 119,978 0 0
Transferred to the credit of premises account 25,000 0 0
Balance carried forward 23,917 13 3 } £459,064 1 1

Cr.
By balance brought forward from last account £20,189 10 9
Gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts ... 438,874 10 4 } £459,064 1 1

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and have found the same to be correct.
(Signed) WILLIAM NORMAN, } Auditors.
RICHARD H. SWAINE, }

London and County Bank, Jan. 29, 1874.

The foregoing report having been read by the Secretary, the following RESOLUTIONS were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the Shareholders.
2. That a dividend of 10 per cent., free of income tax, be declared for the half-year ended 31st December, 1873, payable on and after Monday, the 16th instant, and that the balance of £23,917 13s. 3d. be carried forward to profit and loss new account.
3. That the 15,000 shares in the share capital of the Company already authorised, be offered rateably amongst the Proprietors, who shall appear registered in the books of the Company on the 31st March next, such shares to be issued at a premium of £10 per share, and on the following terms and conditions:—

1. That payments be made as follows:—£7 10s. per share on the 1st June, 1874; £7 10s. 1st December, 1874; £7 10s. 1st June, 1875; £7 10s. 1st December, 1875.
2. That £5 of each payment shall be on account of Capital, and the remaining £2 10s. of each payment shall be taken on account of the premium and added to the Reserve Fund.
3. That such payments, both on account of capital and of premium, shall bear interest after the rate of 5 per cent. per annum until the 31st December, 1875, payable as hereinafter mentioned, from which date the payments on account of capital only shall be entitled to receive dividends after the same rate as the other capital stock of the Company.
4. That instalments in arrear shall be charged with interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, to be paid with such instalments.
5. That any instalment paid in anticipation shall not be entitled to interest until the date when such instalments becomes payable.
6. That the holder of Scrip Certificates (the instalments due thereon having been paid) shall be entitled to receive in respect of each share—
On the 1st March, 1875, } being interest at the rate of
the sum of 5s. } 5 per cent per annum.
And on the 1st March, 1876, the sum of £1.
7. That on the 1st March, 1876, the Scrip Certificates (all payments thereon having been made) shall be brought in for registration, when a certificate for the relative number of shares shall be given in exchange, in favour of the person whose name in full, quality, and address shall be subscribed upon them, on the same being lodged at the London and County Bank, 21, Lombard-street, and the Deed of Settlement of the Company being signed.

4. That Thomas Stock Cowie, Frederick Francis, and Frederick Harrison, Esquires, be re-elected Directors of this Company.
5. That William Norman, Richard Hinds Swaine, and Stephen Symonds, Esquires, be elected Auditors for the current year, and that the thanks of the meeting be presented to the two former for their services during the past year.
6. That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company.
7. That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the General Managers, and to all the other officers of the Bank, for the zeal and ability with which they have discharged their respective duties.

(Signed) FREDERICK FRANCIS, Chairman.
The Chairman having quitted the chair, it was resolved, and carried unanimously.

8. That the thanks of this meeting be presented to Frederick Francis, Esq., for presiding on the present occasion.
(Signed) WILLIAM CHAMPION JONES, Deputy-Chairman.

Extracted from the minutes.
(Signed) GEORGE GOUGH, Secretary.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company, at the rate of 10 per cent. for the half-year ended 31st December, 1873, will be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after MONDAY, the 16th instant.

(By order of the Board)
W. MCKEWAN, } Joint-General
WHITBREAD TOMSON, } Managers.
21, Lombard-street, February 6, 1874.

TO MOTHERS AND NURSES.
The most Innocent Remedy for Children Cutting their Teeth is

MRS. JOHNSON'S SOOTHING SYRUP.
AN OUTWARD APPLICATION,
Which Cools the Heated Gums and gives immediate Relief to the Child. Prepared only by

BARCLAY & SONS, Farringdon Street, London.
Price 2s. 9d. per bottle. Sold by all Chemists.

COALS.—LEA and CO'S PRICES.—Hetton or Lambton, 33s.; Hartlepool, 32s.; best Wigan, 31s.; best Silkestone, 31s.; new Silkestone, 29s.; Best Clay Cross, 31s.; Derby Bright, 28s.; Barnsley, 28s.; Kitchen, 28s.; Hartley, 25s.; Cobbles, 24s.; Nuts, 24s.; Steam, 28s.; Coke, 20s. per 12 sacks. Net cash. Delivered thoroughly screened. Depôts, Highbury and Highgate, N.; Kingsland, E.; Beauvoir Wharf, Kingsland-road; Great Northern Railway Stations, King's-cross and Holloway; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park-basin.

COALS.—GEORGE J. COCKERELL and Co., Coal Merchants to the Queen and to the Royal Family. Best Wall's-end, 33s.; best Inland, 31s.; best Coke, 20s.—cash on delivery. Central Office, 13, Cornhill; West End Office, next Grosvenor Hotel, Pimlico.

ONE THOUSAND SHEETS (42 Quires) of good CREAM-LAID NOTE, and 1,000 ENVELOPES, suitable for the Clergy, Gentry, and Family use, on receipt of P.O.O. for 10s. 6d.; 500 each, 5s. 6d.; 2,000 each, 20s.

THOMAS M. WOOD, Wholesale Stationer, 24, Milk-street, London, E.C. Established fifty years.

N.B.—Card Plate and 100 Transparent Ivory Cards, 3s.; Ladies', 3s. 6d.

COCOA-NUT MATTINGS.

"THE ORIENTAL FIBRE MAT and MATTING COMPANY have lately introduced important improvements in Cocoa-nut Mattings, which are very closely woven with a very clean and smooth surface. The novelty is that the Oriental Fibre is used for the web of the material, which gives greater firmness, substance, and durability, without costing more than mattings of the ordinary make."—Cassell's Household Guide, part xii., p. 371

Sold by Drapers, Upholsterers, &c.

DOOR MATS.

ORIENTAL FIBRE MATS.—Cheap, durable, and efficient. "General Steam Navigation Company, 71, Lombard-street, London, E.C., February 8th, 1870.—I have tried your Fibre Mats at hard work in all sorts of ways. Ships, gardens, stables, and offices, as well as at my private house, and can testify that they are the cleanest that I have in use, and they appear likewise very durable.—THOS. I. BISHOP." Sold by all respectable Furnishing Houses, &c. Oriental Fibre Mat and Matting Company, Highworth, Wilts

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MERCHANT TAYLORS, BOYS' OUTFITTERS, &c.

SAMUEL BROTHERS' vast Stock (the largest in London) is divided into Nine Classes. Each piece of cloth and every garment is marked the class to which it belongs and the price in plain figures.

SAMUEL BROTHERS.—GENTLEMEN'S and YOUTHS' ATTIRE.

Accurate Fit.
High-class Style.
Durable Materials.
Value for Money.
Best Workmanship.
Permanent Colours.
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Fashionable Designs.
Gentlemanly Appearance.
Wear-resisting Properties.

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PRICE LIST.

AUTUMN SUITS.				AUTUMN COATS.			
Business, and Travelling.	Visiting, Frocks, and Clerical.	Boys and Youths.	CLASS.	Business, and Travelling.	Visiting, Frocks, and Clerical.	Autumn Overcoats.	
36s.	43s. 6d.	16s.	A	17s. 6d.	25s.	21s.	
42s.	49s.	20s.	B	21s.	28s.	28s.	
50s.	57s.	24s.	C	26s.	38s.	33s.	
50s.	58s.	28s.	D	33s.	42s.	42s.	
70s.	83s.	31s.	E	42s.	50s.	50s.	
81s.	91s.	34s.	F	45s.	55s.	55s.	
94s.	104s.	38s.	G	55s.	65s.	65s.	
102s.	112s.	—	H	60s.	70s.	70s.	
116s.	130s.	—	I	70s.	84s.	84s.	

All sizes of every class for immediate use, or to measure. Guide to self-measurement sent free. Patterns of every class sent free. All cloths thoroughly shrunk. Perfect in style and fit. Unapproached in style.

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A 12s. 6d. B 14s. C 16s. D 17s. 6d. E 22s. F 24s.

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SAMUEL BROTHERS beg to notify to Parents and Guardians that they have just introduced a new Fabric for Boys' and Youths' Clothing that will resist any amount of hard wear.

THE NEW "WEAR-RESISTING" FABRIC.

are manufactured in every style of Juvenile Gold-mo. Suit for a Boy four feet in height, C class, 25s. Suit for a Boy four feet in height, D class, 30s. 6d. Price ascending or descending according to size.

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THE NEW ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF FASHIONS.

contains 43 Portraits of Boy Princes of Europe, English Ministers, Statesmen, and Politicians, selected from all ranks and parties. Each Portrait (with brief biographical memoir) adorns a figure illustrating the newest and most gentlemanly styles of costume. Price 6d., or gratis to purchasers.

Patterns and guide to self-measurement sent free.

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J. & P. COATS' BEST SOFT SIX-CORD SEWING COTTON.
Suitable for all Sewing Machines.

J. & P. COATS' EXTRA MACHINE GLACÉ COTTON,
This Cotton being greatly improved in quality and finish, will be found unsurpassed for Machine or Hand Sewing. On Reels, 100, 200, or 500 yds.

J. & P. COATS' CROCHET OR TATTING COTTON,
In Skeins or on Reels, of the Finest Quality.

TO BE HAD OF ALL WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.

CHLORODYNE is admitted by the Profession to be the most wonderful and valuable remedy ever discovered.

CHLORODYNE is the best remedy known for Coughs, Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma. **CHLORODYNE** effectually checks and arrests those too often fatal diseases—Diphtheria, Fever, Croup, Ague.

CHLORODYNE acts like a charm in Diarrhoea, and is the only specific in Cholera and Dysentery. **CHLORODYNE** effectually cuts short all attacks of Epilepsy, Hysteria, Palpitation, and Spasms. **CHLORODYNE** is the only palliative in Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, Cancer, Toothache, Meningitis, &c.

From Lord FRANCIS CONYNGHAM, Mount Charles, Donegal, 11th December, 1868.

"Lord Francis Conyngham, who this time last year bought some of Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne from Mr. Davenport, and has found it a most wonderful medicine, will be glad to have half-a-dozen bottles sent at once to the above address."

"Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera has been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE."—See Lancet, 1st December, 1864.

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CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. PAGE WOOD stated that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the Defendant, FREEMAN, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to.—See Times, 13th July, 1864.

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OF THE DAY RECOMMEND

WATERS' QUININE WINE

As the best Restorative for the Weak.

Sold by all Grocers.

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34, EAST CHEAP, E.C.

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PATENT "OZOKERIT" CANDLES.

IMPROVED IN COLOUR.

IMPROVED IN BURNING.

Made in all sizes, and

SOLD EVERYWHERE.

AVOID DANGER,

AND AT THE SAME TIME PROMOTE CLEANLINESS AND ECONOMY, BY USING THE

WESTMINSTER WEDGE-FITTING COMPOSITE CANDLES.

Made in all sizes and sold everywhere.

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CLEAR COMPLEXIONS

for all who use the "UNITED SERVICE" SOAP TABLET, which also imparts a delicious Fragrance.

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* Use no other. See name on each Tablet.

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THE "WORCESTERSHIRE,"

Pronounced by Connoisseurs, "The only Good Sauce."

Improves the appetite, and aids digestion.

Unrivalled for piquancy and flavour.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

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Agents—CROSSE and BLACKWELL, London, and sold by all Dealers in Sauces throughout the World.

JOHN GOSNELL & CO'S

"CHERRY TOOTH PASTE"

Greatly exceeds all other preparations for the Teeth.

"AGUA AMARELLA"

Restores the Human Hair to its pristine hue, no matter at what age.

"TOILET and NURSERY POWDER"

Beautifully perfumed and guaranteed pure.

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IMPROVED and ECONOMIC COOKERY.—Use LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT of MEAT as "stock" for beef-tea, soups, made dishes, and sauces; gives fine flavour and great strength. Invariably adopted in households when fairly tried.

CAUTION.—Genuine only with Baron Liebig's facsimile across label.

The Use of

THE GLENFIELD STARCH

Always secures

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The Admiration of the Beholder,

And the Comfort of the Wearer.

SMOKY CHIMNEYS.—Our Chimney-tops never fail to cure. We fix them "No Cure, No Pay," or send them to all parts on trial and approval.

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W. G. NIXEY'S Refined BLACK LEAD.
"CLEANLINESS."

The Proprietor begs to CAUTION the Public against being imposed upon by unprincipled tradesmen, who, with a view of deriving greater profit, are manufacturing and vending SPURIOUS IMITATIONS of the above article.

Ask for

W. G. NIXEY'S BLACK LEAD.

And see that you have it.—12, Soho-square, London, W.

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CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.

The GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER and RESTORER. For cleansing and clearing the blood from all impurities, cannot be too highly recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin Diseases, and sores of all kinds, it is a never-failing and permanent cure.

It Cures Old Sores,

Cures Ulcerated Sores on the Neck,

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Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face,

Cures Scurvy Sores,

Cures Cancerous Ulcers,

Cures Blood and Skin Diseases,

Cures Glandular Swellings,

Clears the Blood from all Impure Matter.

From whatever cause arising.

As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietor solicits sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

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Sold in bottles, 2s. 3d. each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s. each—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases—BY ALL CHEMISTS AND PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the United Kingdom and the world, or sent to any address on receipt of 27 or 132 stamps by

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BENNETT'S GOLD PRESENTATION WATCHES, 20 gr., 30 gr., 40 gr.

BENNETT'S LADIES' GOLD KEYLESS WATCHES, from 10 gr.

BENNETT'S SILVER WATCHES, with Keyless action, from 6 gr.

BENNETT'S HALF-CHRONOMETERS, compensated for variations of temperature, adjusted in positions, no key.

BENNETT'S 18-carat, Hall-marked CHAINS and choice JEWELLERY. Free and safe for Post-office order.

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Specimen packets, containing six varieties, post free One Shilling.

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Sold by all Chemists and other Dealers in Patent Medicines, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per box.

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"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—*Church and State Gazette*.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—Sir William Ferguson, Bart., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force, Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

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Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, free.

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—The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., and 16s. each. Postage, free.

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Large Bottles 1s. 6d. each. **LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER** (Pepper's preparation) will restore in a few days grey or prematurely light hair to its original colour with perfect safety and completeness. Sold by all chemists, and J. Pepper, 237, Tottenham-court-road, London, whose name and address must be on the label, or it is not genuine.

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are warranted to cure Corns, Bunions, and enlarged Toe Joints in a few applications. Boxes, 1s. 1½d., of all chemists.—PEPPER, 237, Tottenham-court-road, London. By post 14 stamps.

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ATLANTIC LINE.

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The object of this Company is to promote cheap Telegraphy by the use of Light Cables. It will, in the first instance, construct, equip, and work a Submarine Telegraph Cable from the United Kingdom to the Azores, and thence to Halifax, by which ordinary messages can be transmitted to and from America at a uniform rate of one shilling for each word; and it is intended to open branch offices at Glasgow, Liverpool, and Manchester, to facilitate direct communication between these places and America.

A provisional arrangement has been made with the Submarine Telegraph Company for working the cable and conducting the business of this Company; and further, for the transmission by this Company's Cable of all American messages received by the Submarine Company from the Continent, as well as all messages which this Company may receive from America for the Continent.

The leading shipowners and merchants connected with the American trade in London, Glasgow, Liverpool, and Manchester, have promised their cordial support to this undertaking, and the directors confidently anticipate that all interested will co-operate with them in obtaining cheap Telegraphy between the United Kingdom and America.

The adoption of a light form of Cable, and the great increase in the rapidity of Telegraphing, due to the late discoveries of science, enable this Company to lay an Ocean Cable at a considerably lower cost, and to work it at a much larger profit, than has hitherto been done, so that even with a tariff within the means of every one requiring telegraphic communication with America, the profits of this Company will far exceed any which have yet been realised, or are likely to be realised by the existing Companies.

The capital of the amalgamated Companies for American Telegraph Cables amounts to the enormous sum of Seven Millions Sterling; and the result is that these Companies find it expedient to charge four shillings per word, to enable them to pay a reasonable dividend on their capital.

The Cable to be constructed will be less costly, equally durable, and as easily laid as the Atlantic Cables now in use.

The present Atlantic Cables are covered with 10 homogeneous iron wires—each wire being covered with five manilla hemp yarns. These Cables weigh 31 cwt. in air, and 14½ cwt. in water per nautical mile; and, when new, are able to bear eleven miles of their length in water. These Cables are covered with iron surrounded with hemp, and, as soon as the iron begins to rust, the strength of the Cable, both in iron and hemp, becomes gradually reduced until the whole strength of the outer covering is destroyed by corrosion.

The Cable now to be laid will be covered solely with Tarred Manilla Hemp, which by itself is practically indestructible in salt water. It will weigh 7 cwt. in air, and less than 1½ cwt. in water, per nautical mile; and it will sustain at least 20 miles of its length in water.

The advantages in laying such a cable as that now contracted for are obvious, for ships of ordinary size can be employed, and the machinery required will be very simple. The bottom of the Atlantic is well adapted for such a Cable, and it is only at the landing-places and in shoal water that shore ends and intermediate-sized Cable will be wanted. (See report attached by Captain V. J. Johnson, R.N., Surveyor for the French Atlantic Cable of 1869.)

The receipts of the Anglo-American Company may be taken on an average of not less than £2,300 a day, which represent the cost of the transmission of 11,500 words daily at the present tariff of four shillings a word. This Company proposes to adopt a tariff of only one shilling a word; and, should the Anglo-American Company adopt the same tariff, all experience tends to show that, with such a considerable reduction in the charge, the number of messages will be so far increased at the reduced rate as to produce at least the same income as that derived from the present tariff.

On this calculation 46,000 words at one shilling per word will be daily sent across the Atlantic; and if only one-sixth of this traffic is received by this Company, it will transmit about 7,600 words a day, which, at a shilling a word for 300 days in the year, represents, after deducting working expenses

and interest on debentures to be issued, a net profit of 22 per cent. on the capital of the Company, and requires the transmission of only five to six words per minute, which can be accomplished through this Cable by the ordinary instruments now in use. This Company, however, has acquired the exclusive right to use, for the Cables now to be laid between the British Isles and North America, Highton's patents for improving and increasing the sensitiveness of telegraphic instruments; and from the accompanying reports by Messrs. Preece, of the Government Postal Telegraphs, and J. Bourdeaux, electrician to the Submarine Company, it will be seen that with Highton's instruments the speed of working a Cable may be considerably increased.

The following Contracts have been entered into on behalf of the Company, from which it will appear that, after paying for the Cable and patent rights, the sum of £40,000 will be available as working capital.

1st. A Contract, dated the 21st of January, 1874, and made between Henry Highton of the one part, and William F. Thomson of the other part, for acquiring the Patent Rights above named for £5,000 cash and £15,000 Mortgage Debentures bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, to be issued as soon as Mr. Highton's instruments are in use by the Company, and found able to increase the speed of working the Company's Cable to at least fifteen words per minute.

2nd. A Contract, dated the 21st of January, 1874, and made between William F. Thomson of the one part, and Messrs. Bullivant and Allen of the other part, for the construction, equipment, full insurance, laying this year, and maintenance in good working order for 30 days after laying, of a Cable, with shore ends complete, via the Azores, to Halifax, for the sum of £335,000 in cash, and £145,000 in Mortgage Debentures bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The last three instalments of the contract price will only be paid as follows:—£30,000 on shipment, £35,000 on the Cable being laid, and £35,000 after the Cable has been laid and maintained in good working order for 30 days; the revenue during that period belonging to the Company.

These Contracts, together with the Articles of Association, Specification of Cable to be laid, Reports on the practicability of making and laying light Cables across the Atlantic, and on Highton's Patents, as well as specimens of the Cable, may be seen at the Offices of the Submarine Telegraph Company, 58, Threadneedle-street.

The Prospectus and Forms of Application for Shares, together with copies of the Reports above alluded to, may be obtained at the Office of the Company, the Office of the Submarine Telegraph Company, or from the Solicitors, Bankers, Brokers, or Auditors in London, Glasgow, Manchester, or Liverpool.

Dated 7th February, 1874.

THE LIGHT CABLE TELEGRAPH COMPANY (LIMITED),
ATLANTIC LINE.

No.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To be retained by the Bankers.

To the Directors of the Light Cable Telegraph Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per Share, I request that you will allot me Shares of £10 each in your Company, upon the terms of the Prospectus and Memorandum and Articles of Association, and I hereby agree to accept the said Shares, or any smaller number which you may allot to me, and I agree to make the payments thereon at the times specified in the Prospectus, and to become a member of the Company, and I request you to place my name on the Register of Members in respect of the Shares which may be allotted to me.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

Name (in full)
Profession
Address (in full)
Date